

# SECRET

## Combined Monthly Intelligence Review

### GREECE

HENLEY



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HQ Land Forces GREECE

COMBINED MONTHLY INTELLIGENCE REVIEW No.11.

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Note: Combined Monthly Intelligence Review GREECE is to be discontinued. It will be replaced by a Fortnightly Intelligence Review on the same distribution.

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## PART I

### GENERAL SITUATION

Law and order has again pinched most of the limelight in GREECE's domestic issues. Despite a tightening up and a stricter application of the security measures at the governments' disposal, there has not been any overall improvement in the situation. The number of incidents has decreased slightly in some areas but this has been largely offset by the increase in strength of the armed bands and the more ambitious scale of their attacks. The PELOPONNESE which has been comparatively calm for the last two months has recently shown an increase in the number of political murders and incidents. The government in general and especially Spiro THEOTOMIS, the Minister for Public Order, have had to face considerable criticism in the Assembly for their inability to restore order with the wide means at their disposal. ZERVAS supported by other Right-wingers has called for the outlawing of KKE. Though the Government is opposed to taking such a step for obvious international reasons, it has hit out strongly at KKE during the month by legal means. The Left's reaction has consisted, in the main, of vociferous complaints of unprecedented fascist persecution, referring to THEOTOMIS as, "Minister for Civil War".

TSALDARIS returned to ATHENS on 23 July for a short period before returning to PARIS for the Peace Conference. He faced a barrage of criticism from the Opposition parties and the Left for alleged mis-handling of Greek claims and failure to achieve any substantial results in the economic talks.

Efforts to broaden the Government have met with no success. TSAIDARIS offered to include members of the opposition until the plebiscite, but was not prepared to alter the Government's general policy. Such an arrangement the opposition was not prepared to accept. No success was met in TSAIDARIS' efforts to form an all party plebiscite supervisory committee also. The objections in this case were the old ones of time and formula. The opposition insisted that the supervisory be granted powers to fix on their own the date and type of formula to be used.

The discussions on Greek National claims and reparations have been closely followed by all sections of the public. The fact that TSAIDARIS did not solicit a definite promise of support from FRANCE or Great Britain caused some disappointment and led to considerable criticism. The Greek delegation to the peace conference which eventually included members of the opposition left ATHENS on 28 July.

There has been a marked increase in anti-Greek propaganda from BNLGRADE, MOSCOW and MIRANA radios. There is little new in the type of propaganda being put across, consisting as it does, of a monotonous series of "fascist outrages" perpetrated against honest "democratic" citizens. More emphasis, however, has recently been laid, not so much on internal Greek problems, but rather on GREECE's allegedly imperialistic and disruptive attitude towards the Balkans as a whole. The object of this campaign presumably being to blacken GREECE's policy in the eyes of the delegates to the Peace conference.

PART II

OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

(a) ALBANIA

There has been little information of a purely military nature during the period under review. What reports have been received tend to confirm information already known without revealing any fresh developments. It is, however, now possible to give a tentative lay out of the three infantry divisions of the Albanian army. It must be emphasised that the locations given below have not yet been satisfactorily confirmed.

1 Infantry Division - HQ ARGYROKASTRO  
Regt - SARANDE (QR37)  
Regt - LESKOVIKI (QM80)  
Regt - LIBONOVO (QR59)  
Arty Regt - Near TEPELINI (QM32)

2 Infantry Division - HQ KORRCE  
1 Regt - HOCISHTE (QM15)  
2 Regt - ERSEKE (QM92)  
3 Regt - MOSKHOPOLIS (QM95)  
2 Arty Regt - POGRADETS (QM98)

3 Infantry Division - HQ TIRANA

All three inf Regts and Arty Regt also believed to be in TIRANA area.

A deserter from an MG platoon in 1 Regt 2 Division has given the following details of the organisation and strength of 2 Division. The division consists of three inf and one arty regt. Each inf regt has three battalions each of four companies. Each company has four platoons, two rifle, one SMG and one MG. The average strength of each regiment is 1,000. The artillery regiment has a strength of 650. The equipment consist mainly of Russian 76mm guns. The strengths as given would indicate that the strength of the division is in the region of 4,000 - 4,500 men.

Some reports have mentioned that work is continuing on the sea defences of VALONA, especially on the island of SASENO. It appears that this work is being carried out under Russian supervision. An incident similar to that which occurred on 15 May and involved two British Warships, took place on 16 July when a Turkish schooner, proceeding through the CORFU channel, was fired on by Albanian shore batteries. These guns were presumably located in the SARANDE area. No damage was done to the Turkish vessel.

Frontier incidents on the Greek-Albanian border have recently been in the news. On 7 July a Greek frontier post was captured and two others neutralised by fire in the SKIPI (QR68) area, by an Albanian band which, it is alleged, included some regular forces. The band withdrew during the night and the post was re-occupied without a clash by Greek army elements. The Greek government protested through the U.S. representative in TIRANA. The only effect this protest had was to produce from TIRANA radio a host of alleged frontier provocations by the Greeks.

Undoubtedly both sides have, in the last two months, indulged in minor frontier incidents of which little or nothing is heard. It is not thought that the SKIPI incident was, by itself, of any special significance but the propaganda campaign emanating from TIRANA radio and recently echoed by MOSCOW radio may be an attempt to discredit GREECE in world opinion on the eve of the peace conference discussions which will decide the fate of Northern EPIRUS.

It was announced on 11 July following Emver HOXHA's return from a state visit to BELGRADE that a treaty of mutual collaboration and friendship had been signed by HOXHA and SIMIC, the Yugoslav Foreign Minister. The terms of the treaty are couched in general terms emphasising the sufferings of both countries at fascist hands and the necessity for strengthening the ties between them. The most significant clause is one that provides for a 20 year military alliance which appears to be both defensive and offensive.

(b) JUGOSLAVIA

The most important information received during the month has concerned the arrival in MACEDONIA of 3 Proletarian division and its subsequent take over from 2 Proletarian division in the MONASTIR area. Rumours that 3 Proletarian division was moving from BJELOVAR in Northern JUGOSLAVIA to SERBIA were received as early as April. A deserter from 48 division who crossed into GREECE on 18 June stated the 3 Proletarian division was located in the PRIZREM area under command of 5 Army. On 21 July two deserters from 3 Proletarian division crossed into GREECE. They stated that the division had moved down to MONASTIR from the MITROVICA area in mid July and had taken over from 2 Proletarian division which had moved NORTH to MITROVICA. The reason for this switch, according to the deserters, was thought to be the low morale and high desertion rate of 2 Proletarian division. There have been, however, rumours that 41 and 48 divisions are also changing location, consequently the moves of 2 and 3 Proletarian division may be part of a 'general post' of formations under 5 Army command. The locations of the brigades of 3 Proletarian division were reported to be as follows: 5 Montenegrin Bde - MONASTIR, 7 Montenegrin Bde - PRILEP, 9 Montenegrin Bde MONASTIR. The strength of the division, according to the deserters, is low but this may be due to the fact that the full strength of the division has not yet arrived. The divisional commanders' name was given as General SAVA BURIC,

The deserter from 48 division, the medical officer of 2 Brigade, has given valuable confirmation on the constituent units of 48 division. Reports in the past have repeatedly conflicted concerning the brigade numbers of the division. On the strength of information supplied by this deserter, the brigade numbers are accepted as 1, 2 and 14 infantry brigades and 2 Artillery brigade. The brigade locations are: 1 Bde - DEMIRKAPIJA (QJ33) 2 Bde - FURKA (QJ61) 14 Bde - STRUMICA. HQ 48 division was reported to be at STRUMICA. A later unconfirmed report states that HQ 48 division may have moved to VELES. The deserter stated that 2 Artillery brigade was located at STIP together with the divisional engineer regiment. The strength of the division appears to be fairly high, if 2 Brigade is any criterion. The strength of this brigade was given as

1800 men which would indicate that the divisional strength is well over the 5,000 mark.

Deserters from 52 Division have also been received. The composition of this division which has been uncertain for some time is now believed to be as follows: 1 'KOSSOVOSKA' Bde 1 'BOHEJSKA' Bde and 2 Bde; the locations are OHRID, RESAN and KICEVO respectively. HQ 52 Division was confirmed at KICEVO.

22 Division concerning whose continued existence reports have conflicted in recent months is now accepted as disbanded. One deserter stated that it was disbanded at the same time as 42 Division (Mid February 46). The deserters from 3 Proletarian division had no knowledge of 22 Division despite the proximity of PRIZREN, 22 Divisions' last known location, to MITROVICA, which is an additional factor in favour of the disbandment theory.

The exact location of 41 Division is not satisfactorily established at the moment. Deserters previously stated that HQ 41 Division was at KOUMANOVO but in May, the HQ was reported to be in VELES. The deserter from 48 Division, mentioned above, whose knowledge and reliability are believed to be sound states that 41 Division is still in KOUMANOVO. If the unconfirmed report that HQ 48 Division has moved to VELES is true, it would indicate that 41 Division, if not in KOUMANOVO, is certainly not in the VELES area. Meanwhile, until confirmation that HQ 48 Division has moved to VELES is received, HQ 41 division is still carried at VELES.

In CMIRG No. 10, the likelihood of another tank brigade being formed in the SKOPLJE area was mentioned. An unconfirmed report has now been received that a 3 Tank Bde has arrived in SKOPLJE to take the place of 2 Tank Bde which left for zone 'B' in February 46. The arrival of this brigade would, indeed, explain the various reports of tanks in the SKOPLJE area that have been received in the last two months. 3 Tank Brigade was last reported in the ZAGREB area in January 46 and it was thought that it was then in the process of being formed. There is a possibility, however, that the move of 3 Proletarian Division Southwards has led to a misidentification of 3 Tank Bde. This identification must, therefore, be treated with a considerable reserve until further evidence becomes available. The identification of a 3 Tank Bde is, however, an attractive one.

### (c) BULGARIA

There have been no new purely military developments affecting the Bulgarian army during the period under review.

In the politico-military sphere, a purge of 'unreliable' elements in the Bulgarian army has been and is being pursued in the best 'putsch' traditions. The Bulgarian army is one with some tradition and experience behind it and is not based on politically sponsored partisan units like that of JUGOSLAVIA. Consequently, the army is not communist in outlook, it is inclined, rather, towards conservatism. Whereas the Patriotic Front government of BULGARIA has succeeded by terrorist methods in crushing virtually all potential political opposition, the Army, still remained a factor by means of which the communist party might be overthrown should it become a rallying point for the opposition after the withdrawal of Russian troops. The Communists, by building up the National Militia as a powerful communist

controlled interior security force and by purging the army of politically unreliable personalities are endeavouring to secure themselves against this last latent threat to their rule before the departure of the Russian garrison.

The purge is aimed at all ranks in the army from the War Minister, Damian VELCHEV, downwards and is being carried out with considerable ruthlessness. VELCHEV, though a member of the Patriotic Front government, is a leading personality in S.V.E.N.O. a political military party of liberal outlook and according to reports, has continually opposed as far as possible political penetration into the army and the political commissar system. Due to this policy and his recent spirited defence of the Agrarian leader DIMITROV, VELCHEV, himself, has recently come under heavy fire. His executive powers have been taken away from him to a large extent and invested in a council of ministers. According to a source believed reliable, he was, at one time, undecided whether to resign or commit suicide.

According to one report the number of proscribed officers is in the region of 1,200. By 17 July the government press had announced the removal from the army of 245 officers for "fascist activities". Even high ranking officers are not exempt from the gangster methods being employed by the Militia. General DOTSEV, commander of 6 Division, disappeared on 2 July and another senior officer was shot dead on the same day.

Alongside the purge of the army, suppressive measures against the purely political opposition continue. Recent arrests have virtually only left two leading opposition personalities, PETKOV and GICHEV, who are not either in hiding or behind bars.

#### (d) Russian troops in BULGARIA

The situation with regard to the order of battle and layout of Russian forces remaining in BULGARIA has not been cleared up to any marked extent. Reports of movements of troops from the STARA-ZAGORA/YAMBOL towards North-eastern BULGARIA have been received. These troops include mechanised infantry, mechanised artillery and tank personnel. Tank and motorised infantry troops together with armoured vehicles have been reported crossing the DANUBE at RUSE into RUMANIA. These vehicles bore the unit sign of 15 Mot Bde of 4 Mech Corps and of 42 Guards Tank Bde which was believed to be attached to 4 Mech Corps. There is, consequently, some grounds for believing that 4 Mechanised Corps either in part or in whole has left BULGARIA.

There are some indications that the Russians are again moving into Eastern BULGARIA, an area which the May/June movements left virtually unoccupied. It is, however, very difficult to make any speculations on this point since movement through this area both Eastwards and Westwards is taking place.

Although most of the information received during the last two months has had the accent on evacuation, there is some evidence to suggest that fresh units have arrived at BURGAS from RUSSIA and moved Westwards. In support of this vehicle numbers not previously seen have been noted recently in the SOFIA area



PART III

MILITARY SECURITY and COUNTER INTELLIGENCE

(a) General

- (i) Although small scale thefts of WD stores and equipment are typical features of most areas where British troops are stationed, no large scale thefts have been carried out in British installations during the period under review. In ATHENS, where thefts of ammunition and explosives caused some concern last month, the employment of police dogs appears to have effected a marked improvement. Three units where dogs are employed have been able to report that no thefts at all have taken place since the dogs arrived.

Greek security authorities in LAMIA report that documents found on a bandit contained detailed locations of British food stores and signal equipment. No attempts have been made to tamper with these stores but a significant feature of Left-wing band activity recently has been the theft of food and signal equipment.

- (ii) A recent development in the CORINTH area has been the shadowing of FS personnel by left wing sympathisers. Similar cases have been reported from other areas in GREECE.

KKE has recently issued instructions that a complete list be compiled of communists who are employed by British HQs and units so that the amount of information concerning British activities can be stepped up.

- (iii) Although in most districts relations between Greeks and British troops remains cordial, there have been some exceptions to this rule. Several minor incidents have occurred in the ATHENS area and although drunkenness is generally the cause of unpleasantness, deliberate provocation on the Greek side has been suspected in some cases.

Anti British propaganda is still a prominent feature of the Left-wing press and highly coloured and mainly unfounded accounts of the off duty activities of British troops continue to be published.

(b) German Intelligence Services

Nothing to report under this heading.

(c) German Intelligence Service Agents

(i) Arthur SEITZ

The Greek General Staff has now completed the investigation and interrogation of SEITZ, and the case is now being reviewed to establish whether a case exists on which to bring him to trial for his pre-war activities in GREECE on behalf of German Intelligence.

There is no evidence to support the view that his recent return had any connection with the establishment of a Post-war subversive organisation.

(ii) Alexandros AGYNORAS

AGYNORAS, who is a Greek of half Austrian descent, was used by the GIS, and in particular Abwehr II in ATHENS as a recruiting agent. He was also a member of the notorious BUND organisation.

His trial, in absentia, before the Greek Collaborators Court, on charge of betraying Greek patriots- most of whom were executed - to the enemy, has recently taken place.

AGYNORAS is alleged to be at large in AUSTRIA.

(iii) DIENSTSTELLE 3000 - Bertram Sabotage Group

The following nine Italians, all members of DIENSTSTELLE 3000, who were recruited by August LUDEWIG @ BERTRAM for post-occupational sabotage will be tried on 26 August 46:

Marko STEPHANELLI  
Michael CERVO  
Luigi LISSI  
Giuseppe DELLAVELLA  
Nicola FARINOLA  
Alberto ZOLIA  
Antonio MASTROVITI  
Alberto RINALDI  
Paolo TREMAKIS

Most members of DIENSTSTELLE 3000 were arrested soon after the arrival of British Counter Intelligence in GREECE, before the former had time to carry out any of their plans.

(d) Collaborators  
Ioannis VOULPIOTIS

This Greek who has been described as a possible Greek "DARLAN", an arch collaborator and one of the chief war profiteers during the occupation, was the pre-war agent in GREECE for TELEFUNKEN.

His were the brains behind the organisation of the Security Battalions, he was Political adviser to ALTENBURG, the German Minister in GREECE, and an intimate friend of Von CLEMN, Military Attache at the German Embassy.

Although as yet we lack concrete proof, it is certain that VOULPIOTIS had very close connection with the Abwehr. The results of interrogation of various arrested German agents suggest that he supplied the Abwehr with Intelligence on political, economic and probably military matters.

VOULPEOTIS has been held by the Greek Authorities since the early part of 1945 on charges of collaboration with the enemy. Now, undoubtedly through his admitted influence, he has been released by order of the Judicial Council.

Evidence of his suspected treason is now being sought in order that the Greek Authorities may bring him to trial before a Military Court Martial.

(e) WAR CRIMINALS

Eugene FISCHER

The above-named, subsequent to his release by the Greek General Staff, was re-arrested as a War Criminal and charged with being responsible for the betrayal of Greek Patriots to the Germans. Most of these Patriots were executed.

FISCHER, during the occupation, was known as a Nazi and said to be in touch with Pericles NIKOLAIDES, the well known S.D. collaborator. Furthermore it was reported that he gave NIKOLAIDES funds to recruit agents for FRANCE.

(f) ARMENIAN ACTIVITIES

Under the auspices of the Russian Embassy, and with the consent of the Greek Authorities, "The People's Organisation of Armenians in GREECE", of extreme left political tendencies, has sponsored a movement which aims at the emigration of Armenians from GREECE to RUSSIA. The head of this is the pro-Russian Armenian Archbishop in ATHENS, MAZLOUMIAN, who has already arranged means by which Armenian students may travel from GREECE to study at Universities in the USSR.

It was officially announced that the number of Armenians who had registered under this scheme, was between 30,000 to 35,000. A reliable source stated, however, that these figures were grossly exaggerated and that the actual figure did not exceed 5,000 to 6,000.

The first draft of Armenians, mainly skilled or professional people, left KAVALLA in July for SALONIKA on their way back to Soviet RUSSIA. They were comparatively few. The main draft will leave at the end of the month.

Out of approximately 800 Armenians in KOKOTINI, 131 will be leaving GREECE at the end of July. In all 400 are expecting to leave, the rest preferring to live in GREECE.

From the Greek viewpoint this mass emigration can only be regarded as desirable. It is not, however, excluded, that the Russians will make full use of incoming Armenians to obtain first hand information on GREECE, and may also attempt to introduce Soviet Armenian agents into GREECE in the guise of organisers for this emigration movement.

(g) KKE COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE AND ESPIONAGE

(i) Stricter Counter-Intelligence measures are being adopted by the Political Bureau of the KKE to watch the activities of suspicious members of the Party, for it is thought that British Intelligence is making greater efforts to penetrate the Communist Party. In connection with this a close watch is to be kept on the activities of both the British and Greek Intelligence Services, Security Authorities, Greek General Staff, Civil Service, Parliament in general and on the official and private lives of individual MPs. A drive is to be made in an effort to obtain pre-knowledge on laws to be passed and future intentions of the various Greek Authorities. The KKE have appointed security officers one of whose duties will be the safeguarding of Party Officials.

(ii) Instructions have been issued by the Party to waiters and cabaret artistes, who are KKE members, to report any conversation overheard among their English patrons with a bearing on future British Intentions towards GREECE and of the Left-wing.

Furthermore, KKE security officers have been instructed to obtain all available information on shipping, aircraft and British and Greek troop movements.

(iii) Further evidence is to hand that a concentrated effort is being made by KKE intelligence to recruit as active agents members of the Party already working with British Military and civil organisations in GREECE. All such members are being vetted from a security angle before a definite approach by Party officials is made to them.

(h) PORT SECURITY - PIRAEUS

The responsibility for PIRAEUS Port has now been transferred from 94 FSS to 24 FSS, in view of the projected move to MACEDONIA of the former Section.

The last report received from 94 FSS on port Security announced a highly satisfactory state of affairs. Although traffic in the port has increased of late, the smooth working of the Dock Pass System and Military guard procedure, has led to no breaches of security.

PART IV

CIVIL SECURITY

(a) General

There has been no notable change either for better or worse in the overall state of Law and Order in GREECE during the month of July, the numerical increase in armed bands having been offset by more energetic operations on the part of the gendarmerie and Greek army.

Information concerning the activities of KKE and NOF - the latter aided and abetted by the Yugoslavs - is now reaching a point where it should soon be possible to form a clear picture of the whole organization, co-ordination and plans for future operations. Reports (enlarged on below) are already to hand on the re-organization of NOF and ELAS forces. There is as yet no manifest indication of a co-ordinated policy or plan of action between the two, though it is known that KKE has instructed its members to collaborate with NOF in the common aim of embarrassing the authorities.

The areas affected by Left-wing banditry have been undergoing a steady change throughout the month, the centres of activity having moved SOUTH from Western MACEDONIA into THESSALY especially into the mountainous ranges North East and North West of LARISSA (T33). The temporary lull in MACEDONIA noticed during the early part of the month has continued, and it is believed that many of the bands formerly in this area have withdrawn onto OLYMPUS (QT38). Whether this move has been due to minor successes on the part of the Gendarmerie and Greek army is hard to say.

Due to the increase in the size of bands and consequent greater successes in attacks on the Gendarmerie the moral of the latter has shown signs of falling off. Patrolling and sweeping operations are becoming more and more a Greek army committment. The Commanders of B and C corps have now been authorised to control all army and gendarmerie forces in the corps areas where anti-bandit operations are concerned.

An interesting sidelight on the recent trend of banditry has been that whereas in the past, many Nationalist in isolated villages had requested and obtained arms for self-defence from the authorities, these same Nationalists are today handing back their arms and expressing their unwillingness to take part in anti-bandit operations. It has also been reported that some villages in the mountainous areas of Western MACEDONIA have gone even further and made pacts with the local Left-wing bands, promising not to aid or inform the Gendarmerie if in turn the Left-wing do not molest them.

The implementation of the new security laws passed by the present government have caused some consternation amongst the ranks of the Left-wing, but it appears unlikely that they will have any beneficial results until sweeping operations are organized on a scale large enough to have a decisive effect on the strength of banditry as a whole.

So far, although some Left-wing sympathisers have been condemned and executed for unlawful possession of arms or for

being actively engaged either in banditry or helping armed bands, many more, through fear of arrest have taken to the mountains to swell the ranks of the operational groups.

(b) Armed Bands

The PELOPONNESE has been relatively quiet with only the minor incident or murder of a political nature to break the peace. Small Right-wing bands are still operating in the peninsula, but owing to their political alignment do not present a threat to security as a whole. Left-wing bands have only been operating in small groups against Nationalist civilians and unlike their colleagues on the mainland of GREECE have not indulged in attacks on Gendarmerie.

It is in Central GREECE that the greatest bandit activity by both sides has been noticed. The main scenes of activity are in the mountains surrounding the plain of THESSALY. The Left have confined themselves in the main to attacks on the Gendarmerie and Greek army, whilst the Right under SOURLAS and KALAMBALIKIS have carried out punitive raids on villages where communism is prevalent. The Gendarmerie have taken no steps to disband or round up SOURLAS' gang though his HQ and activities are perfectly well known to them.

Although there have been fewer attacks by Left-wing bandits on Gendarmerie posts and patrols during the latter part of the month, the number of bandits employed on individual attacks has greatly increased. The dangers of collaboration between armed bands and KOSSA elements in the army was well demonstrated at the beginning of the month by the now famous PONDOKERASIA (P09) incident when a whole Company of Greek troops was over-run in a short but decisive action. This was the largest unit so far attacked, but subsequent events showed that Left-wing bandits are prepared to attack still larger units. A plan to ambush the whole of 21 Greek Brigade in the SERVIA (T09) pass was uncovered, fortunately, in its early stages and the necessary counter-measures taken.

The Southern slopes of OLYMPUS stretching South West through ELLASSONA (T16) to KALABAKA (S64) have been the areas where the largest bands have operated. This is understandable in the light of a KKE directive that previous successes of Nationalists in this area should be counteracted. The most serious incident in this area was the attack by a strong band on a Gendarmerie post near ELLASSONA (T16) where 9 Gendarmes were captured after the post had been destroyed by mortar fire. In connection with this and other recent attacks on the Gendarmerie, it has been noted that once they have surrendered, Gendarmes are not further molested and are usually released after being stripped of arms and equipment. One exception, however, is reminiscent of the December 44 days. An army detachment of an officer and 6 ORs was ambushed and wiped out on the road from AYIA (T64) to LARISSA (T 33); the bodies were found - as was the case with some of the PONDOKERASIA victims - very badly mutilated.

Apart from the new Left-wing policy of using the maximum forces available in individual attacks, recent raids appear to be directed more towards looting than killing. It is significant too that looting has been confined in the main to arms, supplies and signalling equipment. This fact leads to the conclusion

that either the numerical strength of bands in the mountains has increased and more difficulty is being encountered in provisioning them, or that stocks are being laid in for future major operations; the interest in signalling equipment indicates that the bandits are alive to the fact that if co-ordinated action is to be achieved, communications are essential.

(c) Reorganisation of ELAS

Further reports have been received that attempts are being made to bring the Left-wing bandit potential on to an organised basis, by reviving ELAS. There have, in recent months, been a number of exaggerated and largely inaccurate reports concerning ELAS reorganisation, it has now been confirmed, however, that attempts are definitely being made to reform certain ELAS units which are controlled from an HQ in the OLYMPUS area. To date, reports state that some eight regiments have been reformed. The regiments, it is stated, consist of 2/3 battalions with an average strength of 200 each, the total strength is given as approximately 4,000. It is thought, however, that these regiments exist in the main on paper at the moment and although 4,000 members may have been registered, it is very doubtful whether all can be armed and put into the field at the same time.

(d) Autonomist Activities

Interrogation of NOF bandits captured by the Gendarmerie has supplied a fair though rather vague outline of NOF organisation.

The chain of command is believed to be as follows: There are several Greek Macedonians in the Government of Federal Yugoslav MACEDONIA, the most important being Paschalis PETROVSKY, Michael KERAMITZIS, Georgios OURDILIS and Antonicos KALKOS. There is a branch office of the Federal Government in MONASTIR; this office is responsible for the organisation of NOF activities in GREECE. A comprehensive system of liaison is maintained between MONASTIR and the NOF regional committees in GREECE. As far as is known there are about three regional committees responsible for the areas of KASTORIA, FLORINA and EDHESSA/VEROIA. Each regional committee is divided into three sub-committees each controlling a number of village cells.

The military arm of NOF is based on MONASTIR where a reception and training camp is reported to exist. Recruits in this camp are posted to the Independent Regiment of AEGEAN MACEDONIA. This unit is organised by ELIAS DIMAKIS, better known by his alias GOTSI, and is responsible for the operations of NOF bands. As far as is known this regiment consists of three battalions. The HQ of the AEGEAN regiment is in MONASTIR, 1 and 2 Battalions are deployed along the Greek frontier from MONASTIR to DEVDELISA, 3 Battalion is a holding and training battalion in MONASTIR, 4 Battalion is operating inside GREECE. 4 Battalion consists of three companies each of about 40 strong. The companies' activities in GREECE are directed by the regional committee in whose area they operate. Relief and reinforcements /are for 4 Battalion/received from other battalions. There is still some doubt as to whether the NOF bandits enter GREECE armed or unarmed. While some sources state categorically that they received arms from sympathisers in GREECE, there is considerable evidence that some groups brought arms in with them.

KOF activity during July has not been much in evidence. Sporadic raids are still made against the long suffering Gendarmerie but on a reduced scale compared with other months. Whether this indicates a period of re-organisation, it is too early to say. It is also difficult to estimate to what extent KOF bands are actively co-operating with KKE inspired groups.

(c) Left-wing Activities

(i) Preparations to go Underground.

About the middle of July nervousness and unusual activity were observed among members of the Political Bureau and of the APPARAT of the Control Committee of KKE. Members of APPARAT and former Staff officers of ELAS had been examining houses in ATHENS, noting down those most suitable for town fighting.

KOA had been instructed to supply itself with 50 typewriters and 50 duplicators, to be carefully hidden, and to be in charge of Maria IOANNIDOU, Secretary in charge of the Underground Mechanism of KOA, and of the Secretaries of ACHTIDES.

Leading Regional Committee officials were instructed to change over from one Regional Committee to another for security reasons. Control Committee members not actively engaged were to proceed to the Northern areas to supervise the change over.

KOP officials were instructed to change their places of residence and to be fully armed when on duty, according to a "stand to" order issued by Chrissa HADJIVASSILOU to KOP on 8th July. This was thought to be a confirmation of previous directives as general "stand to" orders have been in force for some time in the KOA and KOP areas.

(ii) EPON and EA

At a recent meeting of the Political Bureau of KKE, directives were issued to all Party organisations to keep a close watch on possible government efforts to disband EPON and EA. Should such efforts be made, it was directed that mass meetings should be arranged and cables of protests to authorities at home and abroad organised.

However, should the Government take action, the Political Commissar of these organisations in the City Committees of KOA was instructed to prepare a plan immediately so that they should function underground. When this plan is put into execution efforts should then be made to secure official recognition of these organisations under some other form.

(iii) KOSSA

KOSSA members who are involved in operations against Left-wing bandits have been instructed by KKE not to refuse openly to take part in them, but to report sick. Failing this, they should desert to the bandits with their arms, later returning to their units as escaped prisoners. Further instructions for the recruiting of members were issued to the City Committees of KOA by the Political Bureau at a meeting in late July. They were to collect particulars of any new Army recruits in the age groups to be called up in August who were members of KKE. KOA were also to be informed of the Unit to which they would be posted and arrangements made for them to join KOSSA.



(iv) OAs and MLAs

The activities of these groups has recently slackened and the Political Bureau has instructed KOA to see that their activities were increased and if possible to improve upon their previous standards.

The Resistance Sections of each KOB should see that OAs were supplied with arms. Right-wing terrorism, it was emphasised, was not limited to the provinces but was also on the increase in ATHENS. The intensification of OA activities was no longer a question of "Honour" but of self protection. Extremist activities, however, such as the attack on "X" offices at KALAMATHI were not permissible "especially in daylight". The present slogan, it was stated, was "self defence" not "attack". When the time came for attack - and it was not very far distant - the Political Bureau would issue the necessary directives.

At a meeting on 14 July of the 1st Full Assembly of the KKE Regional Committee of CRETE instructions were issued that OAs must undergo daily training and be prepared to face possible attacks by "X"-ites, while MLAs must be ready to mobilise the people of CRETE to defend their liberties. The help and collaboration of all Democrats in this connection was essential. They should not hesitate in allowing the leadership of MLAs to be given to non-party members. The Regional Committee expressed the belief that in case of emergency it would be in a position to mobilise half the population of CRETE within a few hours, a rather boastful claim.

(v) Finances

The financial position of KKE has recently weakened and ZACHARIADIS himself, accompanied by BARBIOLIS, (Secretary of Control Committee of KOA) attended the monthly meeting of the Central Finance Committee.

The income for the month of June totalled approximately 150,000,000 dr, a decrease of more than 30,000,000 dr on the income for May.

SIMOS, chief cashier, gave the following reasons for this decrease: (i) The increase of anti-communist terrorism which made it impossible to collect the regular Party subscriptions and funds, and (ii) expenses for feeding and accomodating Party members in hiding.

ZACHARIADIS, in an address to the meeting, said that "action" and "radical measures" were needed to remedy the situation and overcome the "crisis".

The measures he recommended were: (i) Smuggling by KOSSA members, provided those who undertook it were unaware that it was a Party business and were given the incentive of a half share in the profits. (ii) Publications. The activities of this section of the Party's business should be expanded to cover all types of publications. (iii) An all out drive to increase KKE's commercial enterprises.

(f) Right-wing Activities

Other than the operations of Right-wing bands already referred to in this report and sporadic incidents created by "X"-ites, there is nothing of interest to report under this heading.

MAVROMIHALIS is believed to be strengthening his ties with MARKEZINIS whose political activities were mentioned in no 10 and is also attempting to bring the small extremist Populist group formed round STRATOS under his leadership

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## PART V

### POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE

#### (a) The Government

There have been no ministerial changes during this period. The Prime Minister, TSALDARIS, returned from U.K. on 23 July together with the Minister of Finance, HELMIS. TSALDARIS left for PARIS again on 28 July. GONATAS remains acting prime minister and STEPHANOPOULOS acting foreign minister.

Speculations concerning a possible broadening of the government occupied considerable public attention prior to TSALDARIS' return. On 19 July PAPANDEOU returned from PARIS bearing certain proposals from the Prime Minister to the opposition parties. These offers included participation in the government until the plebiscite, co-operation in an inter party committee to supervise the plebiscite and representation on a non-party delegation to the Peace Conference. PAPANDEOU set the tone of reaction to these proposals by saying that he, any way, was not prepared to participate in the government. TSALDARIS offered the opposition parties two of the defence ministries, all of which are at present held by MAVROMIHALIS, the vacant appointment of Minister of Reconstruction and certain ministries without portfolios. This participation would continue until the plebiscite was held. The present government personalities and policy would naturally remain unchanged.

Two long discussions between the government and the leaders of the opposition were held on 24 July. The outcome was that the opposition would not consider TSALDARIS terms for participation. The Liberal party called for a broad coalition government which would follow out a common political policy agreed to in advance. On the subject of an inter party plebiscite supervisory committee, the old axes were quickly put to the grindstone again. The opposition suggested that the plebiscite might have to be postponed for various reasons. TSALDARIS refused to alter the date fixed and also turned down a proposal submitted by PAPANDEOU that the supervisory committee should have powers to alter the plebiscite date and formula. In the end, the opposition leaders refused to take part in what was described as a purely supervisory capacity.

Concerning the composition of the non party delegation to the Peace Conference, TSALDARIS reserved his decision for a short time due to the vitriolic allegations of incompetence and bungling in the presentation of Greek national claims in his visits to PARIS and LONDON aimed at him by the opposition. On 25 July, it was announced that TSALDARIS would be accompanied by VENIZELOS, DRAGOUMIS, under secretary for Foreign Affairs, and two ex foreign ministers POLITIS, a Venizelist, and RENDIS, a Liberal. The Right-wing press alleged that the participation of two opposition personalities was due to the public indignation caused by the opposition's recent non co-operative attitude.

#### (b) The Assembly

The centre of discussion in the Assembly has been the question of improving the standard of law and order. A stormy session took place on 12 July when ZERVAS who has been one of the government's strongest critics, stated that GREECE was faced with the threat of pan-slavism and the most stringent measures should be

taken to combat it. He advocated the immediate arrest of KKE leaders. KATSOTAS, National Unity party, demanded that measures should be taken against both Left and Right-wing bands, a demand which brought forth protests from government supporters and after a smart interchange of views, led to KOULOUMVAKIS' withdrawal from the Assembly. The debate was resumed on 19 July but did not bear any fruit apart from a panegyric on behalf of the old Security battalions from KOULOUMVAKIS and allegations of Royalist terrorism from a liberal deputy, MALAMIDAS. On 23 July ZERVAS' supporters resumed the attack on the Minister of Public Order, THEOTOKIS and tabled a vote of censure. In reply to this the Government asked for a vote of confidence; the government obtained 137 votes out of 234. Although no votes were made against the government, 97 members abstained including some Populists, a fact which the opposition acclaimed as a sign of government disunity.

On 17 July, the law governing the setting up of Security Committees was presented for ratification. Despite some Populist demands for amendments, party discipline eventually prevailed and the bill was passed as presented.

On 24 July, the Minister of Justice, HADJIPANOS, tabled a draft law revising current legislation dealing with collaborationists. It is proposed to abolish the existing collaborationist courts and to allow collaborators already sentenced to have their cases reviewed. This draft law has come in for considerable criticism in the opposition press.

The bill providing for a purge of the civil service has also been discussed. The provisions of this bill were outlined in CMIRG no 10.

On 1 August the Assembly went into recess until 30 September. During this period a special "authoritative" committee will carry out legislation. This committee is empowered to enact both laws and "resolutions", that is decrees which involve constitutional amendments. These resolutions must, however, have been tabled before the assembly went into recess. All measures approved by the authoritative committee are subject to ratification by the assembly as a whole.

### (c) Internal Politics

The under currents of petty jealousies and intrigue within the Populists and the Royalist front as a whole continue. Although it is hardly likely that the Royalists will prejudice their chances in the plebiscite by allowing an obvious breach in their ranks to occur now, information suggests that D day for the Populist party showdown will come very soon after the Plebiscite has taken place. In the event of a showdown occurring, it is thought that TSALDARIS would remain at the head of the main body of the Populist party but the other three members of the Populist big four (THEOTOKIS, STEPHANOPOULOS and MAVROMIHALIS) would lead "splinter-break-away" groups which though small would contain a number of leading Populist personalities. It is unlikely on present form that the break away groups would find any stable basis for co-operation in attacking TSALDARIS because, in true Greek style, they are diametrically opposed to each other.

MAVROMIHALIS is believed to be strengthening his ties with MARKEZINIS whose political activities were mentioned in CMIRG no 10 and is also attempting to bring the small extremist Populist group formed round STRATOS under his leadership. Though MARKEZINIS is already openly attacking TSALDARIS, and STRATOS' group are on the verge of doing so, MAVROMIHALIS is not, it is thought, prepared to take such action till after the plebiscite is over.

ZERVAS' present political alignment is confusing and vacillatory. While he is reported to be willing to join the government, if invited to do so, he is also reported to be in touch with George STRATOS. His recent strong attacks on the Minister for Public Order and his demands for sterner anti communist measures show that he is endeavouring to present himself as the standard bearer in the fight against communism.

The Royalist preparations for fighting the plebiscite have not been much in evidence as yet. MAVROMIHALIS according to one report has been put in charge of operations. With the parliamentary deputies visiting their constituencies during the summer recess, the plebiscite campaign will probably warm up. At the moment, however, the Royalist attitude is one of more or less supreme confidence that the outcome is a forgone conclusion.

In the republican camp, there has been little important political activity. The initiation of a bigger and better Pan-democratic front as reported in CMIRG no 10 has not taken place as originally arranged. However, a loosely formed committee consisting of SOFOULIS, KAFANDARIS, PLASTIRAS, TSOUDEROS and MYLONAS has come into existence. The name under which the announcement concerning this coalition was made was Mega Dimokratikon Kentron (Great Republican Centre). It is presumed that the main object of this coalition is to present as united a front as possible during the plebiscite without showing any signs of allying their interests with those of the Left. In this connection it is reported that KAFANDARIS has recently rejected several EAM offers of co-operation. The Republican Centre has not yet given any indications of the form its plebiscite campaign will take.

The Left have received some rude shocks from the government authorities during the month. By a decision of the Legal Council, the government has dissolved the executive committee of the Greek Confederation of Labour (GSEE) which was elected at the 8th Pan-Hellenic Workers Congress in March 46. The executive committee was judged to have been illegally elected. It will be remembered that the nationalist trades union boycotted these elections. The most significant factor in the government's action is the neutralisation of ERGAS, the KKE controlled trades union, in its direction of trades union policy. The March elections had made ERGAS the most dominant element in GSEE and consequently put a powerful political weapon in the hands of KKE. KKE has in the past been quite unscrupulous in using strike action as a political weapon conveniently operated through GSEE. The government's action, consequently, will, in part, prevent KKE hamstringing its economic measures by controlling labour. KKE called on all labour centres to refuse to hand over to the authorities their files and seals. In the case of the executive committee of GSEE, this resulted in the arrest of THEOS, leader

of ERGAS, ARABADJIS, STRATIS and PAPANIGAS, all members of the executive committee of GSEE. THEOS is also a member of the executive committee of KKE and PAPANIGAS a member of the control committee of KKE. All three were sentenced to four months imprisonment.

In SALONIKA, KKE has been knocked harder than in ATHENS. PAPANIGANIS, leader of the Labour Centre, and a leading light in EAM has been sentenced to 3 years imprisonment for starting an illegal strike. Worse was to come, however, when TZIMAS, STRINGOS and HADJIS, all members of executive committee of KKE and leading personalities in the Regional Committee of MACEDONIA, were sentenced to deportation for complicity in armed banditry.

As a result of the sterner government measures, KKE has instructed its important members to carry out the first phase of going to ground. It is unlikely that KKE will accept such treatment lying down and efforts to step up subversive activities are a distinct possibility. Strike action will also, no doubt, be used when the opportunity for a successful strike arises.

EAM/KKE, despite the government measures, are carrying on with their reconciliation campaign. During the month they have canvassed government leaders, the Regent, leaders of the opposition and foreign embassies. Their requests treated entirely on their own and uncorrelated with the present state of affairs in GREECE are not unreasonable. They ask for a general amnesty for both right and left, and the calling of an all party conference to thrash out a workable agreement to end the present unsatisfactory state of internal security. It is highly unlikely that any large section of public opinion in GREECE would be fooled by this campaign. It is obviously EAM's intention to present themselves to sympathetic listeners abroad as making a sincere attempt at compromise which the government is continually rebuffing. As far as is known, apart from echoes on MOSCOW radio, the reconciliation campaign is having no more success abroad than it is in GREECE.

EAM/KKE continue to make advances to the more leftward inclined sections of the Republican party, still with a notable lack of success.

(d) Economic

There have been a few minor strikes during the month but none was serious. The labour situation as a whole, however, though quiet on the surface is showing some signs of becoming restive. The government have already used the powers invested in them by the "extraordinary measures" bill with regard to strikes in essential industries. Following a flour mill strike in SALONIKA when no warning was given to the authorities members of the strike committee were arrested. PAPANIGANIS, leader of the SALONIKA labour centre, was arrested following a one hour general strike which had not been authorised.

The most important development in the labour world was the government decision to dissolve the executive of the GSEE which was elected in March 46 by the 8th Pan-hellenic workers Congress. The government's action was taken on the advice of the Legal Council following an investigation of the validity of the election.

On 25 July the executive committee of GSEE was requested to hand over its offices within 48 hours to the Ministry of Labour. This request was resisted and the offices were taken over by the police. (For additional details see 'Internal Politics' above). The government intend to disband ERGAS controlled labour centres elsewhere in the country. The executive committee of GSEE will be reelected at the 9th workers Congress. Meanwhile, the Minister of Labour has appointed a temporary committee with a broader representation. The government's action will give considerable satisfaction and prestige to MAKRIS who, having boycotted the 8th Workers Congress, has been trying to get its decisions annulled since the Populist government came into power. The Left-wing is bound to make some sort of reaction to the governments measures if only for prestige purposes. It is known that protests strikes are already being prepared. On 26 July M. JOUHAUX, vice president of the World Federation of Trades Unions, arrived in ATHENS to study the T.U. situation and immediately took an active part in opposing the government's action and promised to take the matter up with the W.F.T.U.

Whatever may be the objections to the government's decision, the GSEE had become a weapon of KKE who used it whenever the opportunity arose to further their policy of unrelenting opposition to the government. Consequently, any government attempt to obtain labour's collaboration was still born.

The price of the sovereign has remained firm and dealings in gold have been on a restricted scale. Commodity prices have been more or less stable.

M. HELMIS, minister of finance, made a statement on his return from U.K. on the result of his negotiations. The arrangements for the disposal of a large quantity of tobacco and the reconstruction of the Greek Mercantile Marine in British shipyards were well received. He was, however, strongly criticised by the centre and Left-wing for his alleged failure to secure further loans.

#### (e) Foreign Relations

Greek claims have possessed a far larger measure of public interest during the month than any other one subject. When M. TSALDARIS returned after his discussions in PARIS and LONDON, he was very severely criticised by the opposition for his alleged mishandling of Greek claims and for his conducting of foreign policy in general. It was emphasised that RUSSIA was opposed to the present Greek foreign policy and from the talks TSALDARIS had, it was evident that Britain was far from giving any encouragement.

The delegation to the Peace Conference consisting of TSALDARIS, VENIZELOS, DRAGOUMIS, POLITIS and RENDIS left for PARIS on 28 July. A debate was held on national claims on 26 July during which all parties stated that it was the firm intention of the Greek people to secure the incorporation in GREECE of Northern EPIRUS, frontier rectification with BULGARIA and sufficient reparations to reconstruct Greek economy.

There has been a marked increase in anti-Greek propaganda from MOSCOW, BELGRADE and TIRANA radios. The propaganda consists mainly of highly coloured and exaggerated accounts of various activities of Greek fascists backed to a greater or lesser extent by British bayonets.

With the Northern EPIRUS question being raised in the Peace Conference, Greek-Albanian relations could not be expected to do anything other than deteriorate. Consequently minor frontier incidents which would normally have passed with little comment have recently led to a series of charges and counter-charges of provocation.

PART VI

MISCELLANEOUS

Location of FS Sections

5 FSS	HQ Det	PSYCHICO KHALKIS LAMIA VOLOS PATRAS	(ATHENS) (VE29) (QY35) (QT70) (VD68)
24 FSS	HQ Det	ATHENS ATHENS PIRAEUS PORT	
94 FSS	HQ Dets	CORINTH CORINTH This section is in process of moving its HQ to KOZANI (QN81).	(VD64)
268 FSS	HQ Det	KAVALLA DRAMA XANTHI KOMOTINI ALEXANDROUPOLIS	(RL16) (QP99) (RL58) (RL98) (RM35)
290 FSS	HQ Det	SALONIKA KILKIS VERROIA NAOUSSA FLORINA	(Q088) (Q023) (Q014) (QN66)