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Combined **FORTNIGHTLY** Intelligence Review

GREECE

HENLEY



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HQ Land Forces GREECE

COMBINED FORTNIGHTLY INTELLIGENCE REVIEW No.2.

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APPENDIX

"A" Organisation of 2 PROL DIV (7,500 All Ranks)

J. R. M. Ottowell
for Lt-Col. *may*
GS01 (Int).

Distribution as for CFIR(G) No.1.

P A R T I

OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

(a) ALBANIA

From Greek sources a report has been received that elements of 3 Division have been sent to the KORRCE area. Though the reliability of the source is open to doubt, it is not unlikely that with the Northern EPIRUS question before the Peace Conference, ALBANIA should reinforce the KORRCE area to forestall any Greek attempt to occupy it by force. No identifications, however, have been received of 3 Division units in the KORRCE area.

A minor frontier incident occurred on 27 August when a Greek frontier post was attacked at QR 6868. The Greek post returned the fire and the attackers withdrew. There were no Greek casualties. Greek sources feel that the attack may have been a diversion to cover the infiltration of armed bandits.

(b) JUGOSLAVIA

Recent reports have mentioned considerable minor movements and general military activity in the areas occupied by 3 and 48 Divisions. In the 48 Division area reports mainly speak of the appearance of artillery especially near FURKA (QJ 6513) and DEMIRKAPIJA (QJ 3734). It is thought that approximately one artillery brigade is concerned. This brigade is probably the artillery brigade of 48 Division which was previously located at STIP. It has not yet been established whether the unit concerned is now established in the FURKA area or whether it was engaged in exercises. In the 3 Division area, reports of moves may well be connected with deployment of the division and the arrival of further divisional units. A deserter from 6 Bty attached to 7 Bde states that the divisional artillery brigade is now located in MONASTIR. An unconfirmed report gives the information that the locations of 5, 7 and 9 Brigades has been changed. The locations as reported are 5 Bde - BROD (QN 78), 7 Bde - RESAN (QM 30) 9 Bde still at MONASTIR. RESAN, however, was regarded as being in 52 Division's area, consequently the report that 7 Bde is there is open to doubt. On the question of the strength of 3 Division which previous deserters have reported to be remarkably low, recent information confirms that the division is below establishment but that the strength is probably at least 3,500 and probably higher.

A refugee who escaped from LESKOVAC (WK 20) prison and arrived in GREECE on 7 August stated the HQ 2 Proletarian Division had moved there. He also stated that elements of 2 Division had been operating against Nationalist guerilla forces in that area.

A deserter from 3 Division has now stated that 24 Division which was in PEC prior to the arrival of 3 Division, has been disbanded. He could not give any details of the disbandment but information definitely indicates that either 24 Division has moved entirely out of the PEC area or has been disbanded. It is thought that the latter explanation is more likely and is accepted.

Further reports have been received of armour in the SKOPLJE, MONASTIR and DEVDELIJA areas. Unfortunately, however, no identifications have been received. The theory that there is now an armoured brigade under command 5 Army has been strengthened not only by these reports but also by a deserter from 3 Division who asserts that an armoured brigade arrived at PRISTINA in June. He could not, however, supply any details.

From interrogation of a number of deserters, a fairly complete organisation of 2 Proletarian Division has been built up and is reproduced at appendix "A". The most interesting feature is the development of the divisional organisation on Russian lines. Although this was only to be expected in view of the fact that the Russians are playing a very large part in training the Yugoslav army, this is the first detailed information which indicates the extent to which 5 Army units have been reorganised and trained.

BULGARIA

No fresh information of a military or political nature has been received.

P A R T II

MILITARY SECURITY AND COUNTER INTELLIGENCE

(a) General

Recent weeks have shown no decrease in the scale of thefts of, and traffic in WD property. Theft has on one occasion accounted for a reduction of fifteen per cent of supplies unloaded at the docks in SALONIKA, while a Greek police authority in the same town has reported the existence of an agency for the sale of arms, in spite of security measures to track it down. A success against would-be thieves has been registered in the ATHENS area when a small-scale amphibious operation carried out against 140 Ordnance Depot was foiled.

British traffic by night on the main ATHENS-SALONIKA road has been stopped during the past week because of the danger from mines laid by Communist bands. There is no reason for believing that such mines as have been laid had the blowing up of British vehicles as their specific objective. Mines, however, are not respecters of persons.

(b) German Intelligence Service Agents

(i) Ioannis BENAS

The above-named a former major in the Greek Army and Abwehr agent who left KLAGENFURT on 18 May 46 via ITALY for GREECE, was arrested by the Greek Authorities on the request of the British Security Authorities. BENAS was wanted by the British Military Authorities in AUSTRIA for interrogation. Soon after his arrest AUSTRIA signalled that BENAS was no longer wanted by them. The Intelligence Directorate of the Greek General Staff intend, however, to interrogate this man on his past activities.

(ii) Dienststelle 3000 - BERTRAM Sabotage Group

Reference CMIRG No.11 part III section (c) para (iii). This trial which was due to take place on 26 August 46, has been postponed on account of the plebiscite till 4 November 46.

(iii) Emmanuel MANIATAKIS @ MANOS @ COLONEL - Ex-Major in the Greek Army.
Michael PAPAILIAS @ ALIS *Papailias*
Markella HADJIGAVRIEL @ AISHA

The above-named Greeks were tried by Greek Court-Martial in ATHENS on the 19 August 46 on charges of espionage.

All three belonged to the ROSETTI - MARTEN Group, a German espionage organisation.

MANIATAKIS was arrested by the Greek Authorities towards the end of 44 and was charged with having worked for the German Intelligence from May 41 until the day of his arrest. His chief function was that of recruiting and despatching of agents to the Middle East.

PAPAILIAS was a W/T operator who, in the Autumn of 1941 together with his mistress Markella HADJIGAVRIEL, were sent on a mission to EGYPT. These two never reached their destination as the boat was intercepted near KEA by the Italians, who escorted the vessel back to PIRAEUS. Both PAPAILIAS and HADJIGAVRIEL were recruited by MANIATAKIS.

The Court passed the following judgement on the Accused:
MANIATAKIS - cashiered from the Greek Army and sentenced to life imprisonment.
PAPAILIAS - 15 years imprisonment.
HADJIGAVRIEL - acquitted.

(c) Collaborators

(i) Hector TSIRONIKOS

Above-named, a former Minister in the Quisling Governments, who fled to GERMANY before the liberation of GREECE, was tried in absentia by the Collaborators Court and sentenced to death.

On 26 August 46 TSIRONIKOS was brought back to GREECE under American escort and handed over to the Greek Security.

(ii) Kirkor BATAVIAN

The above-named was tried in absentia and sentenced to death by the Collaborators Court on account of having been a SS agent who had been responsible for the betrayal and execution during the occupation of many Greeks. BATAVIAN was arrested by the American Authorities in GERMANY by whom he was brought over to GREECE and handed to the Greek Security on 26 August 46.

(d) War Criminals

The following three Bulgarians were tried by the War Criminals Court on a charge of having committed War Crimes in MACEDONIA during the occupation:

Georgios ZELNEFF - was sentenced to death.
Tryphon KOVAKIEFF - life imprisonment.
Nikolaos LISKOFF - 4 years imprisonment.

(e) Armenian Activities

On the night of 15/16 August 46 the Rumanian SS "TRANSYLVANIA" set sail from PIRAEUS with approximately 3000 Armenians en route for Soviet Armenia.

An officer of the Greek Harbour Police who went on board the SS "TRANSYLVANIA" stated that the captain of the ship seemed very frightened of a Russian civilian, a member of the NKVD, and that some of the passengers seemed to become more nervous once aboard, half regretting their decision.

131 Armenians left KOMOTINI on 7 August 46 for repatriation to Soviet Armenia.

(f) OZNA Activities

Jugoslav deserters confirm that internal security, as distinct from normal police duties, is still the responsibility of OZNA. It maintains military and civilian sections both of which have uniform and plain clothes branches. In addition to these duties OZNA provide autonomists bands which cross into GREECE from JUGOSLAVIA with frontier permits.

A further source of information on OZNA is a Jugoslav officer deserter who has volunteered the following:

In addition to its normal security functions, OZNA has agents in all Army Units from Bn formations and over, whose duties are the watching and neutralising of anti-TITO activities. These agents exercise a great deal of authority and have power over all military persons irrespective of rank. The work of OZNA agents in Military formations has nothing to do with that of the Political Commissars.

(g) Bulgarian Espionage

The Greek Security Authorities have reported that a Bulgarian Lt-Col VIDINSKI, who was specially trained to organise intelligence and espionage services, returned from RUSSIA in the beginning of August. He has been entrusted, at SOFIA with the organisation of groups which will be sent to TURKEY and GREECE.

These groups will be trained in W/T, sabotage and the collection of information. They will be trained at a special school which was opened for this purpose at SOFIA. Members belonging to these groups will either travel on regular passports or cross the border secretly.

(h) NOF Espionage

The type of espionage activity which the MONASTIR office of NOF is carrying out has been demonstrated by a letter found on a courier who was arrested on 29 July. The letter was originated by a certain EHSIRIDES. Extracts are given below:

I want the following information what div is in KOZANI, what bde, strength of the bde; whereabouts in KOZANI they are stationed, and where the remainder (of the div) is, their HQ. I must have correct information. Possibly you may find one of our soldiers. From him you will learn all the exact infm, and if we do have anyone in KOZANI, he will finish the work, and give you all the infm we require. How much arty is in KOZANI and which div or bde it belongs to? What gun-towing vehs or tks? What and how many English are in KOZANI, what sign they wear, what flashes they wear on their arms, what colour and what design? What is the design of the piece of cloth they wear on their arms, and colour exactly, and you should draw the sign on paper. What is the sign outside the British HQ, what capital letters has it, and what are the numbers and the colour of the sign outside? What numbers do the vehs and tks carry? Well MAKEDON, listen, anywhere you go or stop, if you see a ~~vehicle~~ number, not only the usual number, but the number of the coy or det it belongs to. Also what make, since all trucks have trade marks. The number I am asking for is usually on the back or front of all vehs,

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like a flag, and is coloured. Into the colour is painted a number which is in white, and is 70, 40, 60 etc. Report on which colour they are; write the colour exactly. Every det and coy has its own colour:- No 70 is white, the colour note well; green or red or for this work you will be paid in dollars or gold.

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PART III

CIVIL SECURITY

(a) General

The state of Law and Order in GREECE during the fortnight under review has shown little appreciable change in either intensity of attacks and clashes with patrols, or location. The strict security measures imposed by the Government have, as was to be expected produced little result. Whereas heavy penalties often involving life imprisonment or death have been imposed on captured bandits or people directly connected with armed bands, and some 1200 deportations have been made, a greater number of communists have taken to the mountains fearing possible arrest. It is also hardly to be expected that anyone actively engaged in banditry would give up and return to his home fearing the consequences of arrest, only to be later arrested as a communist and charged with previous crimes of banditry. These security measures were repealed during the Plebiscite period, and the question is now being gone into by the Minister of Public Order who will present his findings to the Council as to whether these measures should again be enforced or repealed indefinitely.

The three large sweeping operations conducted by combined Greek army and gendarmerie forces in the areas of OLYMPUS (QT.38), VITSI (QN.63) and PAIKON (QO.38) came to an unsatisfactory conclusion with but slight casualties to the bandit forces.

The largest operation was that in the OLYMPUS range conducted by elements of B and C Army Corps; the object was twofold. a.- to drive through OLYMPUS so as to break up banditry in the area and to search for concealed arms. b.- to install gendarmerie posts in troublesome villages. The sweep was supported by artillery, armoured cars, fighter and reconnaissance aircraft.

Although objectives were attained, and gendarmerie posts installed as planned, and a small number of arms discovered, the difficulty of the terrain and lack of surprise prevented the columns from bringing the bandits to close action with the result that few casualties were inflicted. Bands were however dispersed, but after the withdrawal of the troops, again reformed on their old stamping-grounds.

The lack of success in all these operations does not necessarily imply bad organization or tactics on the part of the Greek Forces, although these were not of the highest order, and it should be borne in mind that comparative lack of success attended similar operations in GREECE by well-equipped and highly trained German Formations.

However, a direct and encouraging result of these operations has been the heightening of morale amongst the gendarmerie, army, and populations of outlying villages in the danger areas, and the realization on the part of KKE that the present Government means business.

In CMIR No. 11, it was reported that Nationalists in WESTERN MACEDONIA had been handing back the arms they had previously requested from the gendarmerie, and were showing an unwillingness to operate against Left Wing bands. The pendulum has now begun to swing again, and Nationalists are once more organizing themselves as armed vigilantes (A.V.E.) in the neighbourhood of FLORINA (N.67), carrying out patrols and helping the gendarmerie generally. Apart from playing a purely defensive role, these A.V.E. groups have begun to take the offensive against the Slavo-Macedonians, and are carrying out propaganda against them, pointing out that they are not wanted in GREECE and had better leave. At the present time, with no small amount of friction existing between GREECE and her neighbouring countries on the question of minorities, this is a highly undesirable state of affairs, but serves to illustrate the point that morale is rising. Although the total number under arms in A.V.E. groups is but 1200, it is reliably reported that in all, some 15,000 arms have been distributed to Nationalists throughout GREECE.

The Plebiscite period passed off with nothing more than the minor incident to break the peace of ATHENS. All precautions had been taken by both sides, and K.K.E. especially, fearing some sort of organized action against them, were on the alert with all plans laid and strict security measures in force, ready to swing into action if the situation warranted it. Their policy was however not to take offensive action on their own initiative, but to be ready to use all their available forces if attacked by Government or Right Wing forces. As the results of the Plebiscite were a foregone conclusion in the minds of the Royalists, it was hardly expected that they would lay themselves open to abuse from the communist element in surrounding countries by exerting any armed pressure on K.K.E.

Both Left and Right Wings held large pre-Plebiscite meetings in ATHENS, which were also without incident, and the police once more took a bow for their patience and impartiality.

(b) Armed Bands

The PELOPONNESE having been as usual comparatively quiet during the fortnight, woke up during the last days with an attack by a communist band on the gend post at AYIOS PETROS (VJ.37). This was the first attack of its kind for some considerable time, and was preceded by the cutting of the telephone wires to the post. This attack was quickly followed on the 31 Aug by the ambushing of a gendarme patrol which was successfully routed. Whether these are the first of a series of attacks to be expected in the light of a new K.K.E. directive to its Peloponnesian Forces to act more aggressively, remains to be seen, but the first attack did in fact come very quickly on the heels of the directive in question.

Elsewhere in GREECE, the situation has changed but little. Bandit forces are firmly established in THESSALY and WESTERN MACEDONIA, and to a lesser extent in CENTRAL and EASTERN MACEDONIA, and the EVROS province (RM). Little further has been heard of ELAS reorganization or strength, but at the time of writing a recruiting drive is under way in ATHENS to collect ex-ELAS personnel and despatch them to the mountains under the guise of excursions. This has been reported as due to the fact that the concentration of Greek and British troops in the ATHENS area is restricting their movements and they are therefore endeavouring to organize a free territory somewhere in GREECE where they can reorganize their forces for subsequent use unhampered by the prying eye of the Authorities.

The biggest clash of the fortnight was one near LARISSA (T.44) on 21 Aug, when bandit forces suffered 50 casualties, including 20 killed, for a loss of 5 gendarmes killed and 6 wounded. Results such as this are however abnormal, and the average casualties inflicted on bands are not usually more than 5 at a time. Left Wing bandits took their revenge on 30 Aug with a heavy attack on a gendarme post in the same area, causing some casualties amongst gendarmes and military.

Owing to the increase in mechanized patrols in the bandit areas, a new feature has been the mining of roads by andartes, and some patrol vehicles have been blown up. Attacks on gendarme posts and military units have however lessened, and only seven were reported between 20 Aug and 1 Sept.

(c) Left Wing Activities

It was reported that the Party had suffered some disorganization due to the arrest of a number of its officials, particularly in SALONICA where it was stated that suitable replacements had been difficult to find.

On the other hand, other quarters consider that this impression of disorganization had been expressly put out for propaganda purposes. The fact that no outstanding activity of K.K.E. had been noticed could be ascribed to the fact that they had been forced by the new government measures to increase their underground activities.

New City Committees of KOA and KOP were elected about the middle of August and in this connection it is reported that officials who had been arrested and shortly after released were not being reinstated until full investigation had been made as to the circumstances of their release and the possibility of information having leaked out, during their interrogation.

It is reported that the City Committees of KOA and KOP have been considering plans for going underground after the plebiscite when it was thought the Party would be declared illegal. It was suggested that disturbances in ATHENS should be inaugurated to facilitate the escape to the provinces of all leading communists and party officials known to the police whilst the trouble was on.

KOSSA - The key-note of the latest KOSSA instructions to its members, is the adoption of greater security measures in order to neutralize any efforts made by the Greek Security Authorities to infiltrate into the Party. It is stressed that members must take the greatest precautions not to be in constant touch with each other for fear of being compromised.

At the same time, members have been ordered to obtain all available information on Army, Naval and Air-Force units, their method of training, equipment etc. Great importance is laid on the obtaining of locations of Security Forces, together with full personal particulars of officers serving with such units. Any cases of political bias on the part of the services should also be reported. In addition, the reasons for the political opinions of officers should be ascertained.

(d) Right Wing Activities

It is reported that members of extreme right wing organizations have been surreptitiously armed by the Authorities in the PELOPONNESE and NORTHERN GREECE.

In the FLORINA area, the E.M.A. (National Macedonian Struggle) organization which has changed its name to A.V.E. (AMVNA VORIOU ELLADOS) meaning 'Defence of Northern Greece', is said to be busy arming itself.

On 8 Aug it issued a proclamation calling upon the inhabitants of MACEDONIA to ignore the anti-National slogans of the Left, & to insist that MACEDONIA was an integral part of GREECE. It appealed to Communists to give their allegiance to GREECE rather than to the Bulgarian ex-enemy and warned the Ochrantes and NOFites to flee the country whilst there was yet time.

A.V.E. have since published two more posters aimed at splitting K.K.E. from N.O.F.

It is reported that A.V.E. have no organization as such in FLORINA and claim to have no party allegiance, but to be a purely Nationalist organization.

P A R T IV

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE

(a) The Government

There have been no changes in cabinet personalities during the period under review. There has, however, been considerable speculation as to the possibility of extensive reshuffles after the plebiscite and the possibility of a broadening of the government. It is generally thought that the King will call for a broad coalition drawn from the parliamentary parties. From the press, it would appear that the Liberals would not be willing to participate in such a government if TSALDARIS remains Prime Minister and indeed the Liberal press went further to demand that SOFOULIS be made Prime Minister. The two favourites for inclusion in a reorganised post plebiscite government are PAPANDREOU and VENIZELOS, both of whom, it is understood, would accept an appointment if it is offered.

(b) The Assembly

On 19 August the recess committee finally approved the bill providing for the purge of the Civil Service after the Liberals and National Unionists (KANELLOPOULOS) had expressed their opposition.

(c) The Plebiscite

The Plebiscite took place on 1 September as arranged. Polling day throughout GREECE was not marked by any increase of incidents and passed off quietly in the majority of areas.

Pre-plebiscite activity, especially in the last week, warmed up considerably. On the Republican side, it was the Left whose campaigning was the most vigorous. A number of Centre personalities did go on tour but in general the Centre appeared to be expending their energies, right to the last, in persuading the government to postpone the plebiscite rather than in campaigning for Republican votes. This attitude was presumably dictated by the feeling that with the country in its present political state, a Royalist majority was not open to doubt. On 22 August, SOFOULIS in an announcement to the press protested strongly against the conditions under which the plebiscite would be held. He alleged that free and fair voting would be impossible due both to the activity of Left-wing bandits and Right-wing oppression and that the result would consequently be a farce. His opinions were echoed by other Centre personalities. There was, however, little doubt but that the Liberal party would participate since, as SOFOULIS stated, only those who participate would be in a position to complain about the conditions under which the plebiscite would be conducted. The Left-wing continued its "battle for republic" to the end despite its failure to gain any co-operation from the Centre parties. There was some division of opinion within KKE as to whether an abstention policy would be more successful from their point of view than participation. On 21 August ZACHARIADES in a leader in RIZOSPASTIS addressed to the British Parliamentary delegation stated that the Left were willing to vote and if they did not it would be due to the fascist measures of the government which made free voting impossible. Later, however, EAM announced that the Left would participate so long as the Centre did but

would not be bound to recognise the result in view of prevailing conditions. KKE, itself, played no open role in the plebiscite arrangements but used the Federation of Democratic Clubs and EAM as its cover. On 28 August the Democratic Clubs organised a large meeting in ATHENS at which SOPHIANOPOULOS, TSIRIMOKOS (ELD) and PARTSALIDIS (EAM) spoke. SOPHIANOPOULOS, who was the main speaker, blamed the Right and Centre for the responsibility for the present fascist regime. He declared that the plebiscite should have been postponed but never the less the Left would participate. The result, however, would carry little validity either in GREECE or abroad.

In the Royalist camp, there was very great activity immediately prior to the plebiscite in the form of wall painting and pamphleteering. Plebiscite committees were set up in the majority of the large towns and all Royalist parties worked in close collaboration. On 29 August a Royalist meeting was held in ATHENS at which a message from TSALDARIS was read. He appealed to the people to vote in an orderly manner and emphasised that the settling of the constitutional question would lead the way to sincere co-operation between the leading political parties. The Royalist meeting was very enthusiastic but no incidents occurred.

On 30 August the government announced that all political meetings would be banned. The Deputy Prime Minister, GONATAS, congratulated the participants in both meetings for their orderly conduct.

At the time of going to press the full results of the plebiscite are not known. The Royalists were narrowly defeated in SALONIKA, and also in PIRAEUS and CRETE. There appears, however, to be no doubt what the eventual outcome will be when the voting figures from the provinces are received.

(d) Internal Politics

With the plebiscite occupying the centre of the political stage, there have been no political manoeuvres which were not directly connected with it. One of the most interesting speculations is the future policy the King will adopt in the event of his return to GREECE. The question is whether the King will be able to control the Royalists or whether it will be the other way about. On his last return from exile, the King's popularity rose until Royalist elements took the reins into their own hands. There is some grounds for believing, at the moment, that some Royalist personalities are attempting to create a situation whereby the King will be forced to rely on their support and advice. It is unlikely, for example, that MAVROMIHALIS or MARKEZINIS will be willing to take a back seat in the post plebiscite administration. It is, however, worth noting that MAVROMIHALIS resigned from the royalist government in 1935 over the King's policy of reconciliation with the Liberals. It would appear that the King wishes to follow just such a policy now. It is a debatable point how far the more intransigent Royalist elements will be prepared to allow such a reconciliation policy to progress.

The attitude of the three leaders of EPE is still doubtful. The political ambitions of PAPANDREOU and VENIZELOS make speculation over their future policies difficult, both are political dark horses. While both of them declared emphatically

for a republic neither was prepared to collaborate with the SOFOULIS Liberals and both, according to reports, are perfectly willing to participate in a post plebiscite government on a broader basis. It may well be that PAPANDREOU and VENIZELOS will move closer to the Royalists if and when the wind is favourable.

The KKE is anxious over the possibility of being declared an illegal organisation. There has been an overall tightening up of security and perfecting plans for going to ground. At the same time it has been noticeable that KKE has been operating far more through cover organisations like EAM and the Democratic Clubs.

(e) Economic

The pre plebiscite feeling of excitement not unmixed with apprehension and the aggressive atmosphere of the Peace Conference has been reflected in the gold market. The demand for gold greatly increased during this period and the price in the open market rose in proportion. By 31 August the "flap" period appeared to be over and demand showed signs of decreasing again.

There were no strikes of any importance during the period under review.

(f) Foreign Relations

GREECE has had a rough passage both in PARIS and at home recently; a fact which has united all parties excluding the extreme Left in indignation and resentment. At PARIS TSALDARIS has had to face combined attacks from the "Slav bloc". He repudiated in no uncertain terms an Albanian allegation that Greek foreign policy was designed to stir up trouble in the Balkans. The Albanian attack was followed by sharp words with MOLOTOV and a demand by MANUILSKY that the Greek situation be put before the Security Council as a potential threat to peace. TSALDARIS replied that he was prepared to answer all such allegations. SOFOULIS in a special announcement to the press in support of TSALDARIS described the Ukrainian delegate's charges as groundless and most unjust. It is not yet known whether the Security Council will accept the Greek situation on its agenda.

The Yugoslav ambassador, M. CANKAR, has been recalled to BELGRADE. The grounds for his recall were stated to be press allegations that the Yugoslav authorities sponsored banditry in MACEDONIA, press attacks on TITO and the general attitude of the Greek government towards JUGOSLAVIA. It is hard to conceive three more obviously fabricated and empty charges. There is ample evidence to show that the Yugoslav authorities are aiding and abetting banditry to some extent. Such attacks on TITO that have appeared in the Greek press have been more than counteracted by the attacks on TSALDARIS in the semi-official Yugoslav paper BORBA. The Yugoslav government's hostility to GREECE has been amply demonstrated at the Peace Conference and is daily manifest in BELGRADE radio broadcasts. Both Centre and Right-wing opinion feels that the Greek Ambassador should have been withdrawn from BELGRADE instead of vice versa. The Yugoslav Ambassador has left a charge' d'affaires in ATHENS and diplomatic relations have not been cut off.

Jugoslavija

Closely following the Yugoslav government's action, the Soviet Ambassador, Admiral RODIONOV, protested to the Greek Government on 23 August alleging that the Greek press was waging an anti-Soviet campaign and that Soviet films were not permitted to be shown in the provinces. STEFANOPOULOS, replying on 24 August, stated that prosecuting action was to be taken against several editors for insulting the USSR but emphasised that there was no press censorship and that Russian attacks on GREECE could only bring about retaliatory action. On 29 August, however, RODIONOV applied for his passport visa. He left for MOSCOW on 31 August. He stated he was leaving on official business. He has left a charge' d'affaires.

Public opinion has not been unduly apprehensive over the Yugoslav and Soviet attitude. It is thought in some circles that the departure of the two ambassadors on the eve of the plebiscite was designed to embarrass the government and supply a possible excuse for not recognising the plebiscite result, should such an excuse be called for.

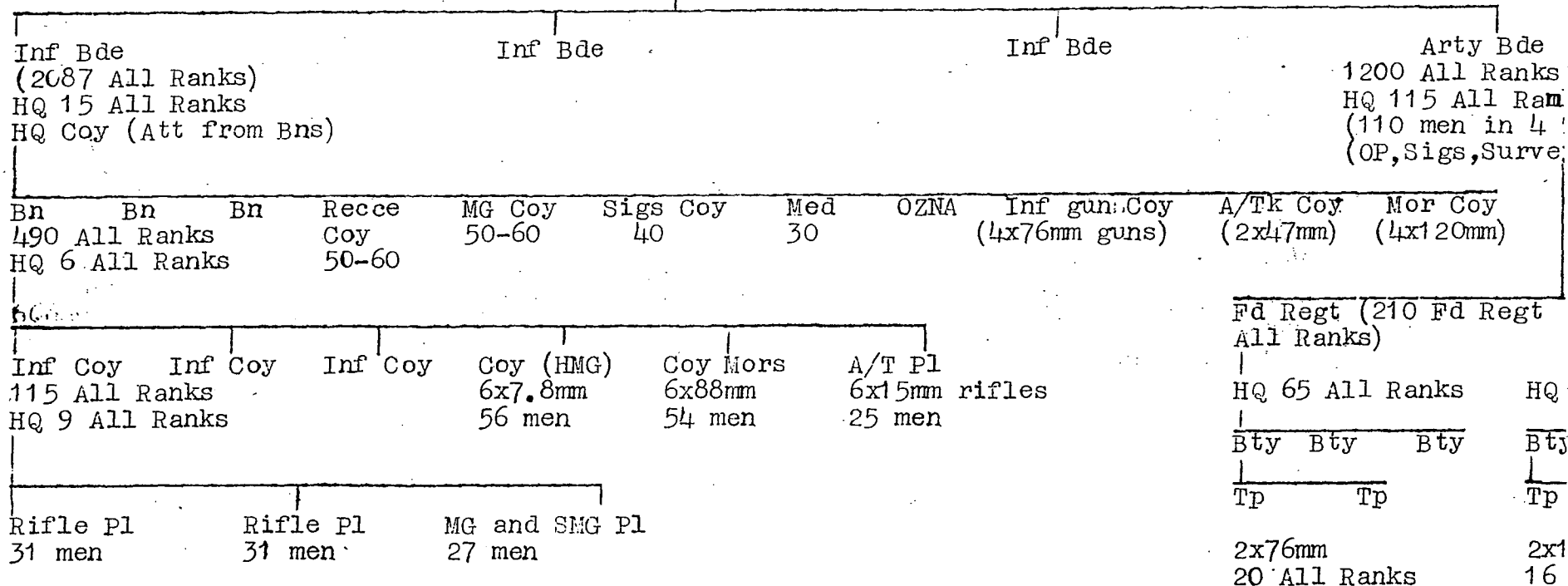
On 30 August the text of a telegram sent by EAM to the Security Council of UNO was reproduced in the press. The note demanded the withdrawal of British troops since they were the main obstacle to the satisfaction of Greek national claims and a possible source of international friction.

A minor but interesting minority problem has arisen from a request by the Pomak minority in BULGARIA to be incorporated into GREECE. The Pomaks are a Moslem minority which occupies some areas of THRACE and Southern BULGARIA. The press stated that a Pomak delegation would bring up the issue at the Peace Conference. On 31 August STEFANOPOULOS announced that GREECE would be happy to incorporate the Pomaks in the Greek State.

The first Italian representative since the war has arrived in ATHENS. His name is Count GUIDOTTI.

Organisation of 2 PROL DIV (7,500 All Ranks)

HQ
 Independent Arty Regt (12 x 76mm guns. 3 Btys of 2 Tps)
 A/A Bty. (6 x 15mm AAMG).
 Eng Bn.
 Med Bn.



Notes:

1. The organisation of 2 Prol Div has been compiled from a number of different deserters. From the administrative side there are obviously some gaps but the fighting troops are believed to be accurately described. The organisation and War Establishment of 52 Division has also been worked out from deser reports and confirms to a large extent that of 2 Prol Division. The following differences have been

HQ 52 Div - One transport Coy (60 - 70 men).
- Two Sig Coys (100 Men) Note: 52 Div does not appear to have Sig Coys at Bde HQ.
- Indep Arty regt consists of 2 Btys each of 2 Tps each of 2 x 76mm gun.

Inf Bde - A/Tk Coy has 6 x 45mm A/Tk guns.
- Chemical Warfare pln (20 men).

2. There is some obscurity over the organisation and comd of the sp coys at Bde (Inf gun, A/Tk and Mor Coys). Information from 3 Division indicates that these coys form indep Btys with bty numbering. If, on the Russian model, the personnel of these Coys are Artillerymen and not infantry men, these btys may well be controlled by the indep Arty regt at div HQ. If this is the case, then it is doubtful whether the armament of this regt as given is correct unless it is a reserve.

3. It is interesting to note that the WE at any rate of 2 Prol and 52 divisions is rapidly approaching that of the wartime Russian infantry division and such gaps in the services as exist may well be supplied by analogy.

4. Although it would appear from the WE that both 2 Prol and 52 divisions are very strong formations it has not been satisfactorily established that the WE is fully implemented and consequently is not yet accepted that the strengths as given represent the real strength of the divisions.