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COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS
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APO 512

Bari, Italy
19 January 1945

SUBJECT: Political Parties and Military Organizations.

RE: Situation in Greece.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

(The following report is being written in conjunction with report dated 17 January 1945, subject: "Interrogation and Findings, Security Battalions in Greece. These reports are complementary and should be treated as such if a clear picture of the political situation in Greece is desired.)

This Agent has spent over 20 days personally interrogating over 500 people of Greek and Italian nationality (late arrivals from Greece), and has compiled the following information on the political situation in Greece.

In the past two years at least 196 known political or military-political organizations have at one time or another made their appearance on the political scene in Greece. To attempt to take each separately would be a loss of time and effort, for only a few are of any political importance. The overall political picture breaks down into two major categories involving

- 1) Nationalism
- 2) Communism

Whatever the names of the political organizations, which are in most cases ambiguous and sometimes meaningless, may be, the basic issue is nationalism as opposed to communism. With this as a basis, it becomes then a simple matter to distinguish the various political organizations, their policies and their aims.

The main political organizations at present are the EAM or National Liberation Front which embraces the leftist, extreme leftist and communist groups; the parties of the middle, namely the Popular Party of TSAIDARIS and the Liberal Party of SOPHOULIS; and the Royalist Party, staunch supporters of King George II. With the fall of Greece, the Government-in-Exile, which had escaped to Cairo, was purely a royalist controlled government. The EAM-inspired revolt within the Greek army and navy in the Middle East brought about a crisis causing the downfall of the royalist premier TSOUDEROS. Sophocles VENIZELOS of the Liberal Party became premier but was unable to form a government, and PAPANDEOU, a mild royalist, successfully undertook the forming of a government, but failed to give any of the cabinet seats to EAM representatives. Trouble continued, and to solve the difficult problems of internal politics in Greece, EAM representatives were invited to attend the Lebanon Conference in May 1944. It was not until 2 September 1944 that four EAM representatives were given cabinet seats. The PAPANDEOU

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government therefore was a coalition government of all parties with PORFIROGENES as Minister of Labor, ZEVGOS as Minister of Agriculture, SVOLOS as Minister of Finance and TSIRIMOKOS as Minister of National Economy representing the EAM. This was the political situation when the Germans evacuated Greece. The refusal of the ELAS to lay down its arms at the request of the Greek Government and the resulting civil war caused the downfall of the PAPANDEOU government in late December 1944. With the appointment of Archbishop DAMASKINOS as Regent in the absence of King George II, it was hoped that a solution would be speedily reached to end civil strife. General PLASTIRAS, the old revolutionary, was asked to form a government. PLASTIRAS, who is a die-hard nationalist, excluded all but Nationalists in his government. As it stands as of 3 January 1945, the Greek Cabinet is composed of

- 1) Education - Prof. Constantinos AMANDOS (Liberal)
- 2) Supply - Dimitrios HADJISKOS (Democrat-Royalist)
- 3) Social Welfare - Petros LEVANTIS (Liberal)
- 4) Agriculture - Ioannis MAKROPOULOS (Mild Royalist)
- 5) Finance - Athanasios SEAROUNIS (Liberal)

With all nationalists, the immediate issues are to disarm the ELAS, dissolve the EAM, free all hostages held by the ELAS, create a national army and keep Greece free of communism. Whether Greece is to be a Republic or a Monarchy will depend on the will of the people. The Nationalists are united against communism, and, if successful in the present crisis, they have agreed to allow the people to choose their own form of government in general elections. On the other hand, the communist-controlled EAM - ELAS, realizes that once its army is disarmed and Nationalist hostages released their scheme for a communist dictatorship in Greece will end in complete failure and perhaps severe reprisals will be taken against its leaders. Already (on 10 January 1945) two mainstay parties of the EAM, the Socialist Party of SVOLOS and the Union of Popular Democracy of TSIRIMOKOS, have withdrawn from the National Liberation Front movement and have joined the ranks of the Nationalists. This leaves the EAM-ELAS purely communistic.

The severe measures against the EAM-ELAS requested by PLASTIRAS tend to prolong the present crisis. As long as the ELAS is armed, it is highly improbable that a peaceful solution can be reached.

An outline of the various political and military political organizations in Greece over the past 3 years is given below with a brief summary of their organization, leaders, aims and record:

(Note: Because the ELD and SKE were members of the EAM until 10 January 1945, these two political parties will be included under the EAM topic heading, but their present position is explained.)

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MAIN POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORGANIZATIONS IN GREECE, 1941 - 1945

I. EAM (Ellinikon Apoeletherikon Metopon)
or National Liberation Front

A. Political Groups Represented

1. PEEA (Politiki Epitropi Ethnikis Apoeleftherosis)
or Political Committee of Nat'l Liberation)
2. KKE (Komunistikon Koma Tis Ellados)
or Communist Party of Greece
3. ELD (Enosis Laikis Demokratias)
or Union of Popular Democracy
4. SKE (Socialistikon Koma Tis Ellados)
or Socialist Party of Greece
5. AK (Agrotikon Koma)
or Agrarian Party
6. KAK (Komunistikon Agrotikon Koma)
or Communist Agrarian Party
7. ESKLE (Enomeno Socialistikon Koma Tis Ellados)
or United Socialist Party of Greece
8. Republican Party

B. Organizations

1. ELAS (Ethnikos Laikos Apoeleftherikos Stratos)
or National Popular Liberation Army
2. ELAN (Ethnikon Laikon Apoeleftherikon Naftikon)
or National Popular Liberation Navy
3. EPCN (Ethniki Pan-Ellinos Organosis Neon)
or National Pan-Hellenic Youth Organization
4. OPLA (Organosis Prostasias Laikon Agoniston)
or Popular Combattant's Security Organization
5. ETA (Epiteilitia Ton Andarti)
or Commissariat of Partisans
6. ID (Laiki Diafotisis)
or Popular Enlightenment
7. EEAM (Ergatikon Ethnikon Apoeleftherikon Metopon)
or National Workers' Liberation Front

8. EA (?)
or Organization for National Solidarity
9. EP (Ethniki Politophilaki)
or Municipal Guard

II Nationalist Parties

A. Political Groups Represented

1. RKE (Rasilikon Koma Tis Ellados)
or Royalist Party of Greece
2. LKE (Laikon Koma Tis Ellados)
or Popular Party of Greece
3. PKE (Phileleftheron Koma Tis Ellados)
or Liberal Party of Greece

(These are the three main parties. there are many smaller ones.)

B. ORGANIZATIONS

- 1a. EDES (Ellinikos Demokratikos Ethnikos Syndesmos)
or Greek National Democratic League
- 1b. EOEA (Ethnikai Omades Ellinon Andarton)
or National Units of Greek Guerillas
- 2a. EKKA (Ethniki Kinoniki Apoteleftherosis)
or National and Social Liberation
- 2b. 5/42 Regiment of Evzones
- 3a. EKEP (Ethnikon Komitaton Ellinon Patrioton)
or National Committee of Greek Patriots
- 3b. ES (Ellinikos Stratos)
or Greek Army
4. "X" (Chi)
or Officers' Royalist Organization
5. POA_m (Patriotiki Organosis Anastasis or Athineon)
or Patriotic Liberation Organization - Athens
6. EOB (Ethniki Organosis Basilofronon)
or National King's Followers Organization
7. RAN (Romelia Anatoliki Thraki Nisi)
or Roumelian Eastern Thrace Islands

8. UBE (Iperaspisti Borion Ellados)
or Serving Northern Greece
9. PAO (Pan-Elliniki Apoeleftheriki Organosis)
or Pan-Hellenic Liberation Organization
10. EO (Ethniki Organosis)
or National Organization
11. EOE (Ethniki Orini Ellas)
or National Mountainous Greece
12. TA (Tagmata Asfhalias)
or Security Battalions

BRIEF RECORD OF ORGANIZATION, LEADERS, AIMS AND RECORDS OF THE ABOVE

I. EAM - National Liberation Front

A. Organization

This political front was organized on 27 September 1941 in Greece. The original parties included were:

- 1) KKE - Communist Party of Greece
- 2) EID - Union of Popular Democracy
- 3) SKE - Socialist Party of Greece
- 4) AK - Agrarian Party (Vogiatzis)
- 5) AKK - Communist Agrarian Party (Gavriolidis)
- 6) ESKE - United Socialist Party of Greece
- 7) Republican Party

Although the real organizers were members of the KKE, the political aims and aspirations of the Communists were cleverly camouflaged behind the patriotic-sounding name of "National Liberation Front." Patriotic political and clandestine military organizations from all over Greece flocked to support this National Liberation movement which was pledged to the liberation of the Greek peoples from the Naz-Fascist armies of occupation. Its organizational set-up was the well known communistic committee or cell system. Its initial work was of a patriotic nature, and its original aims were:

- 1) The creation of a popular democratic government in Greece
- 2) The socialization of transport and heavy industry
- 3) The breaking-up and distribution of large estates.

Its foreign policy was

- 1) The abolition of the foreign debt
- 2) The creation of a "Good Neighbor Policy" in the Balkans
- 3) The strategic readjustment of Greece's frontiers

In the summer of 1942, the ELAS, its army of liberation, was created, and by the spring of 1943 it is estimated that the "Front", at its peak of popularity, had over 2,000,000 followers in Greece. In the autumn of 1942, however, it became evident that members of the KKE who held all the key posts were gaining undisputed control of the "Front" and were beginning to use the union as a tool to realize their own selfish plan. It conducted a vigorous propaganda campaign to convert the various groups represented in the EAM to the communist proletariat ideal. When the true policy and aims of the KKE-controlled EAM were discovered, many nationalistically inclined groups drifted away from the organization and began to operate independently of the EAM. The resultant crisis forced the Socialist George ECONOMOU, Secretary General of the EAM, to resign, and the communist PARTSALIDES was appointed to the post. Although the ELD and SKE, which were half the total strength of the movement, remained with the organization, their influence declined considerably and the EAM became, in reality, a communist-run organization.

On 9 October 1943, the EAM-KKE openly declared a communist dictatorship in Greece and started a campaign to become the undisputed governing body and only representative in Greece^{and} of the Greek peoples. In April 1944, it formed the PEEA which was intended to be the provisional government of Greece until the day of liberation. The ELAS and the numerous military or semi-military organizations formed by the EAM were thus used by the "Front" to execute the decisions or whatever military operations the EAM had planned. At the outset the EAM cooperated with various guerilla bands in committing acts of sabotage and carrying on military operations against the German, Italian and Bulgarian armies of occupation. Later, however, when the KKE gained control of the EAM, all of its efforts were directed toward the extermination of all rival political and military organizations in Greece, working towards the realization of a proletarian regime.

When the Allied Invasion forces landed in Greece in early October 1944, the ELAS was the only well-organized and well-equipped military organization in Greece. With civil strife in progress because of the ELAS refusal to be disarmed, the SKE and ELD, on 10 January 1945, left the EAM. During the negotiations for a truce, in late December 1944, the EAM-ELAS was represented by Alexander SVOLOS (ELD), SEVGOS and PARTSALIDES (KKE) and Maj. MACRIDES and Maj. ATHENELIS (KKE-ELAS). Because of the failure of the ELAS to disarm and because of its many acts of violence which were inspired by the KKE, the ELD and the SKE denounced ELAS policy and left the organization. The present situation is one of nationalists and socialists united against the communists. A summary of political groups and military groups represented in the EAM is given below:

1. PEEA - Political Committee of National Liberation.

This committee was formed in April 1944 and represented a broader section of the Greek people. It was a governing

body, deriving its authority from a National Council which was composed of 191 National Councillors elected, supposedly, by members of the EAM. Many leaders from the middle, left and communist parties were members of the Council. Its power was limited, and it depended on the EAM-ELAS for support. It is obvious, therefore, that when the EAM became communist-controlled, the PEEA became a rubber stamp for EAM policy. The original role and policy of the organization were patriotic, but today the PEEA is synonymous the EAM-ELAS-KKE.

2. KKE - Communist Party of Greece

The KKE was organized in 1918 by Moscow educated ZACHARIADES who became its Secretary General. The party was never too popular, and its political role in Greece up to 1941 was ineffective. With the coming of METAXAS in 1936, the party was blamed for labor unrest, and the general strike declared at the moment that King George II called METAXAS to assume dictatorial control of the government. ZACHARIADES was imprisoned by METAXAS and the party was banned by the government and many of its leaders were jailed. The party went underground, but after the fall of Greece in April 1941 it became one of the most popular and important clandestine organizations in Greece. Its leaders, Athanasios KILARAS (alias Ares BELOUCHIOTES), George SIANTOS, General Secretary, PORFIROGENIS (Minister of Labor in PAPANDEOU government), ZEVGOS (Minister of Agriculture in PAPANDEOU government) and PARTSALIDES (Sec'y General of EAM), organized the EAM movement to unite the people in a patriotic movement. The ultimate goal of the KKE was to declare a dictatorship of the proletariat in Greece. To accomplish this, the KKE used the EAM and the ELAS to organize every hamlet, town and city in Greece. It has been reported that not even in Russia was the organization so complete and effective. In each community there is a political commissar, a military commissar, a central committee, a Communist Youth Organization, secret police, a propaganda unit and even a tribunal where offenders and nationalists are tried and sentenced. Through the ELAS it has been able, by force, coercion and intimidation to control two-thirds of Greece. Actual members of the party are very few and all go under assumed names. Its influence and fury have been felt in every community in Greece. As long as it controls the well-organized, well-armed ELAS, its strength should not be underestimated for it is certain that it will put up a terrific struggle before it releases its strangle hold on Greece. The torture and death of thousands of Nationalists are attributed to the KKE, and the propaganda campaign against the British and the present civil war in Greece are communist inspired. Its latest propaganda has been to announce to the people of Greece that America disapproves of the British policy in Greece and for the EPOY (Youth Organization) it has falsely published a declaration from the Youth of America extolling the brave deeds of the youth of Greece and urging them to continue the fight for liberation against the third invader.

3. ELD - Union of Popular Democracy

The ELD was organized on 16 June 1941 by Elia TSIRIMOKOS (Minister of National Economy in the PAPANDEOU Government). The party, which

is moderate socialist in policy and which believes in non-revolutionary socialism, joined the EAM in September 1941. The party has a large following and constantly opposed the dominance of the KKE in the EAM and the use of the ELAS for political instead of military purposes. On 6 November 1944, the ELD proposed a union with the SKE under SVOLOS. It also opposed the use of the ELAS against the Allied Invasion forces in the December revolt. Eventually, the ELD in agreement with the SKE left the EAM and on 7 January 1945 issued a joint decree announcing

- 1) Resignation of the ELD and SKE from the National Liberation Front.
- 2) Declared themselves in sympathy with the Allies in combatting Fascism.
- 3) Would work for a truly socialistic democracy.
- 4) Condemned the KKE for its atrocities.
- 5) Announced that all atrocities and crimes committed by the EAM-ELAS-KKE were contrary to their desires.
- 6) Ordered all their followers in the ELAS to lay down their arms.
- 7) Would cooperate with the Nationalists against the Communists.

It has been rumored that its leader has been taken hostage by the ELAS.

4. SKE - Socialist Party of Greece

The Socialist Party was formed in 1908 by GIANNIOS. It gained immediate popularity but was never powerful in national politics. With the advent of the Communist Party in 1918 it lost popularity and ground. Between 1918 and 1936 it occupied itself wholly with trade unions. The threatened general strike in 1936 was blamed, in part, on the SKE and KKE, and when General John METAXAS established his dictatorship, the party was banned and it went underground. Some of its leaders were jailed, but were released at the time of the Italo-Greek war 1940-1941. It was one of the original members of the EAM, and in 1943 its position in the EAM was strong. It recruited many members. One of its most distinguished leaders is the Socialist Alexander SVOLOS, former professor of constitutional law at the University of Athens, who later became Minister of Finance in the PAPANDREOU coalition government. Its delegates attended the Lebanon Conference. In December 1944, it began to merge with the ELD and denounced the KKE-controlled EAM-ELAS policies and revolutionary tendencies. On 10 January 1944, it officially resigned from the EAM. Its General Secretary is Dimitrios STRATIS. Its committee of three includes SVOLOS, ASKOUTSIS, and Angello POULOS. It has joined the ranks of the Nationalists against the Communists.

5. AK - Agrarian Party

The Agrarian Party in Greece was never very strong. It is one of the original members of the EAM. Its membership embraces many small farmers who are opposed to the holding of large estates. This party, by no means, represents the rural population of Greece. Its moderate

socialistic popularity was a result of the German and Italian occupation. When the ELAS began confiscating food and supplies for its men, many small farmers who never paid much attention to politics were either forced to join the EAM for self-preservation or escaped to large cities and joined a Nationalist organization. Over fifty per cent of the men in the Security Battalions are small farmers who suffered at the hands of the EAM-ELAS. Its role today has been overshadowed by that of the KKE.

6. AKK - Communist Agrarian Party

This party under GAVRIELIDES is under the control of the KKE. It embraces all small farmers who advocate the breaking up and distribution of large estates. Most members are also members of the KKE. In fact, the party can be considered under direct control of the KKE at the present time. It represents most of the rural population found in the ELAS.

7. ESKE - United Socialist Party of Greece

No information.

8. Republican Party

No information.

B. Organizations of the EAM

1. ELAS - National Popular Liberation Army

The ELAS, the army of the EAM, was created in the summer of 1942. Personnel for the organization were recruited from all the political organizations of the EAM. Later, when the army came under the direct control of the KKE, it accepted socialist and communist sympathizers from every Balkan State, as well as deserters from the Italian and German armies of occupation. By early 1943 it became the most powerful clandestine military organization in Greece and held half of Greece free from the armies of occupation. Its initial work was of a patriotic nature, and it became a thorn in the side of the German and Italian authorities. Because it was the most effective clandestine army in Greece the British attempted to merge all guerilla bands with the ELAS. Most of the arms, munitions and supplies parachuted into Greece from British planes were destined for the ELAS. When the KKE gained control of the ELAS, it organized it along old communist lines, with political and supply commissars with every unit. Officers of the ELAS were known as "captains" regardless of rank, and discipline became lax and eventually practically non-existent. Each unit also had a court of justice to deal with offenders and nationalists.

By early 1943 it became obvious that the ELAS was being used by the KKE to establish its domination in Greece. It ceased to fight the Germans and began a ruthless campaign to eliminate all of the opposition leaders in Greece. Nationalist army officers were hunted down and murdered, all police agencies were attacked and the attempt made to eliminate all institutions of law and order with the excuse that they were collaborating with the Germans. The families of Nationalists were either murdered or taken as hostages to the mountains, and their homes looted and destroyed. All property of Nationalists was divided among

members of the EAM. Then began a campaign to eliminate all armed nationalist guerilla units. An attempt by the Allied Military Mission in Greece to reach an agreement with the ELAS and the Nationalist units (EDES, ES, 5/42 etc.) ended in failure when the ELAS agreed to the conditions set down by the Mission but continued, nevertheless, its efforts to eliminate all armed Nationalist units in Greece. In the summer of 1943, the ELAS persisted in its attacks on the EDES, 5/42nd, etc, and the Allied Mission, which by this time became aware of the plans of the KKE-controlled ELAS, ceased to give them arms. In September 1943 the fall of Italy and the attempt of the German authorities to disarm and take prisoner all Italian soldiers led to the desertion of whole fully-equipped Italian units to the ELAS. This incident increased the power of the ELAS. Later, the Bulgarian Communist party, SNOV, under PETROV and DEMITROV, agreed on a mutual-aid pact and began supplying arms to the ELAS with the understanding that both organizations would work for an autonomous Macedonia and Thrace and that Epirus would be given to Albania. These conditions and the pact with the hated Bulgaria outraged the Nationalists in Greece. The struggle continued unabated, but the ELAS was too powerful for most Nationalist units, and all Nationalist guerilla armies, excluding the EDES and the Security Battalions were either annihilated or dispersed and their leaders butchered.

A well-known method of the ELAS in destroying the power of a known Nationalist town was to attack its German garrison and stand by and watch the German authorities take reprisals against the townspeople. A perfect example is the fate of the town of KALAVRYTA. There, the ELAS killed several soldiers of the German garrison and took eight prisoners as hostages. These unfortunates were beaten, tortured and then killed. The bodies of all eight were stripped and tossed into a ravine. The following day a German punitive expedition under a certain Captain GRUMANN (Gestapo) arrived in the town, assembled the populace, put the women and children in the town schoolhouse and had the men and boys bring all their grain and other foodstuffs to the market square. There all the livestock was turned loose to feed on food and grain gathered while all males were forced to remain on their knees and watch the procedure. The men were then conducted to a hillside and forced to answer "yes" as their names were called and the question "Are you a member of the ELAS" put to them. As each man answered "yes" he was shot. In this manner the whole population of the town was murdered while the ELAS was in strength in the neighboring hills. In the town, meanwhile, German soldiers tossed phosgene bombs into the schoolhouse. Only a part of the women and children managed to escape through the windows. That day 1,500 people were murdered in the town of KALAVRYTA by the Germans. The bodies lay for days without burial with the threat of death for anyone who attempted to bury them. Other such stories of terror and death were numerous and consistent in Nationalist towns.

When it became obvious that the Germans were leaving Greece, the EAM-ELAS began a campaign to enlist in its ranks remnants of all Nationalist units, calling on all Greeks to unite to repulse the "third invader" who was planning the return of George II to the throne of Greece and to enslave the Greek people once again. Through the efforts of the EDES, the officers military organization known as CHI ("X") and the Security Battalions, the communist-inspired plan was foiled. When the Germans evacuated Greece, all stores which were not destroyed were either sold by German quartermasters or given outright to the ELAS. Moreover, German Staff officers deserted to the ELAS, and it has been reported to this Agent that Germans boasted that "the struggle against the Allies would continue six months after the German Army evacuated Greece."

It has also been rumored that arms destined for "Tito's" partisans found their way to the ELAS. Even after the Allied Forces had landed in Greece, the ELAS continued its propaganda among the populace to prepare to fight the "third invader". Thus the ELAS, which had collected arms, munitions and supplies for nearly two years, was well-prepared to dispute, by force of arms, a nationalist government backed by the British. By resorting to civil warfare with such vigor, the EAM - ELAS hoped to convince the rest of the world that the British were backing a government in Greece against the will of the Greek people and attempted to gain the sympathy of the rest of the Allies, especially America. In some respects the ELAS has succeeded. Today the ELAS is still strong, but internal disputes may render it powerless rather than vigorous opposition.

The commanding officer of the ELAS is Stephanos SERAPHIS, a former infantry colonel in the Greek Army who was dismissed because of his role in the 1935 revolution against the Greek government forces. As leader of the DAS (Democratic Liberation Army) he joined the EAM movement at the time of its inception. The real powers behind the ELAS, however, are Athanasios KLARAS (alias Ares BELOUCHIOTES), the Moscow-educated Greek communist, and the ELAS central committee composed of General MANTAKAS, General HADJIMICHALIS and George SIANTOS. The above named persons will no doubt attempt to prevent the disarming of the ELAS because they have all been marked for punishment by the present PLASTIRAS government.

2. ELAN - National Popular Liberation Navy

This organization is the naval counterpart of the ELAS. When the revolt within the Greek naval units at Alexandria, Egypt, in 1943-1944, failed, the plan to create an EAM navy was made impossible. This revolt resulted in the imprisonment of the ring-leaders and the purging the Greek Navy of all persons who had taken an active part in the uprising. Therefore the ELAN is a naval organization without power. In Greece, the ELAN possessed several schooners and launches which were used in transporting supplies and men for the ELAS. Its role has been a minor one and of no strategic importance to the EAM movement. The leaders in this organization are not well known, and it can be assumed that the ELAN was under the complete control of the ELAS.

3. EPON - National Pan - Hellenic Youth Organization

It can be said that this organization is the junior organization of the KKE. Its members were recruited from boys and girls from the youth of Greece from the ages of 12 to 20. The EPON is a fanatically inspired organization; the worst of the atrocities and crimes attributed to the ELAS were committed by these teen-aged communists. The notorious loose morals of both sexes of the organization have been encouraged by the KKE. Young girls between the ages of 16 and eighteen accompany the ELAS in its operations and boast of being mistresses of the fighting men. Equality between boys and girls

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has been reached by the organization and it is not strange to find a group of men and boys being led by a young woman. Members of the EPCN were successfully used by the EAM-ELAS in the street fighting in Piraeus and Athens to accomplish difficult and dangerous missions. One of the most important roles that this organization has played was in the propaganda campaign conducted by the EAM-KKE. Youths of 12 to 14 were given bucket and paint-brush and the red hammer and sickle was painted by them on the walls and sidewalks of every town and city in Greece. Other youthful thugs were used by the KKE to murder or kidnap Nationalists (It has come to the attention of this Agent that on many occasions a 14 year old boy has kidnapped a middle-aged nationalist at gun-point). Not to have killed a Nationalist was considered a sign of weakness in a member of the organization. Incidents of torture at the hands of these youthful communists have occurred in every town in Greece. All their leaders have assumed names. The official leader of this group, if any, is not known.

4. OPLA - Popular Combattants' Security Organization

This organization is the secret police of the EAM - ELAS. It has been organized on the basis of the Russian OGPU and does similar work for the EAM. Its personnel includes many trained ex-policemen and gendarmes as well as deserters from the Italian Carabinieri. Its work has been to provide positive intelligence as well as counter-intelligence for the EAM - ELAS. Its methods of torture are notorious. It is a much-feared organization in Greece. It has been said that even if the "Front" fails to achieve its goal the organization will continue to exercise its functions because most of its members are known only to the leaders of the EAM-KKE.

5. ETA - Commissariat of Partisans

The ETA was the supply section of the ELAS. Its work was to find supplies for the army. It accomplished this through the taxation of ELAS - controlled territories, donations by EAM members and sympathizers and through the confiscation of the property of Nationalists. Small farmers were forced to contribute part of their produce to supply the ELAS, merchants were forced to contribute clothing and other goods and workers were taxed. The ETA operated in conjunction with the ELAS and used ELAS power to accomplish its work. (This Agent has noticed that many members of the Security Battalions joined the Battalions to escape ELAS reprisals after refusing to be taxed or donate their goods.)

6. LD - Popular Enlightenment

This organization was the propaganda section of the EAM. It edited and published EAM-controlled newspapers, distributed, through the EPCN, propaganda leaflets and pamphlets, and conducted lecture tours in favor of the EAM. It also provided all the reading material for members of the EAM and conducted anti-Nationalist propaganda in Nationalist-controlled towns and cities. Most of its material has been outright communist propaganda. Some of it has been rather coarse and vulgar and has been intended for the worker rather than the intellectual. Its successful propaganda campaigns can be attrib-

uted to the force of ELAS arms.

7. EEAM - National Workers' Liberation Front

The EEAM is an organization of unskilled workers. It began as a socialist group but today is under communist control. Most of its members are also in the EKE. It has tried to organize the workers in the EAM towards the realization of the proletariat ideal and the improvement of the condition of the workers.

8.) EA - Organization for National Solidarity

The EA is a youth relief organization. Its work has been similar to that of the Red Cross, but it occupies itself solely with the families of EAM members and sympathizers.

9) EP - Municipal Guard

This organization was under the direct control of the PREA rather than the EAM. Members of the EP strived for law and order in EAM-controlled towns and cities. At present, not much is known about the EP nor the importance of its role in Greece.

Nationalist political parties and organizations over the past three years in Greece have played a secondary role to the highly organized EAM because of the existing decentralization within their ranks. Actually, however, their strength in numbers is greater than that of the EAM. With the fall of Greece in 1941 and the entry of the Germans, Italians and Bulgarians into the country, small clandestine resistance organizations and guerilla bands were formed, usually by ex-army officers, to continue the struggle against the invaders. In every region of Greece such a movement sprang up. A political organization would be established to recruit men, collect arms, munitions and supplies, and when this was done a military organization would be formed and the unit would leave for the mountains to carry on guerilla warfare against the armies of occupation. These units usually disregarded their pre-war political affiliations for the common cause against the invaders. Members of these guerilla units and political organizations actually were members of the Tonalist, Popular or Liberal parties. National politics never affected their role as guerillas against the common enemy. Therefore, the Nationalists were never able to organize or create a well-equipped, strong army. If they were as highly organized as the EAM-ELAS there is no doubt that the present day crisis could have been avoided, because the issue would have been decided long before the arrival of the Allied Invasion Forces. Unlike the EAM-ELAS, these Nationalist organizations were staunch supporters of the Greek Government-in-Exile and had no specific political aims other than general elections to decide the form of government in Greece once the forces of occupation were driven out of the country.

The disadvantage of such decentralization became apparent when they became

easy prey for the more centralized forces of the EAM-ELAS.

It was not until early 1944, when it became apparent that the EAM was determined to gain political domination of the country, that all Nationalist forces attempted a union. It was evident that they were too late in this respect and their only salvation was the knowledge that the Allies would back the Greek Government - in - Exile by force of arms. It was on the insistence of the Nationalists that the ELAS was asked to lay down its arms. Nationalist organizations, when civil strife broke out in Greece, presented for the first time a united front. Most of the fighting in Athens (in the early days) was between the ELAS and the CHI or "X" organization of Nationalist Army officers and ex-soldiers. Today, Nationalists have united to prevent the threat of Communism in Greece.

(During the interrogation of Nationalists on the question of political affiliations, most replies were "I belong to the anti-communist party" or "I am a member of the Nationalist party", rather than specifying a particular political party of Greece.)

The various Nationalist parties and political and military organizations are explained in brief in the following outline. The parties of the center and right are many, but only those of importance will be treated.

II. NATIONALIST PARTIES IN GREECE

A. Political Parties Represented

1. BKE - Royalist Party of Greece

The Royalist party is the strongest nationalist party in Greece. Although determined to return King George II to the throne, it has compromised with all other Nationalist organizations to allow the people to vote in general elections to decide the form of government in Greece. It has violently opposed the EAM-KKE plan for a communistic Greece. It has inspired the organization of many clandestine political and military organizations against the armies of occupation and later was responsible for organized opposition against the EAM. In its ranks are included most of the officers of the Greek Army. It has played an important role in the formation of the PLASTIRAS government although it has wisely refrained from seeking domination of the Nationalist coalition government. Its leaders dominated the TSOUDEROS government in Cairo but gave way to liberals during the crisis of 1943-1944 in the Middle East. At present it is conducting a propaganda campaign in the Nationalist occupied territories to increase its popularity in view of the coming general elections. Its leaders stress the need of a constitutional monarchy to be modeled after Great Britain's form of government. The Royalist party is extremely pro-British and looks for a continuation of the British policy in Greece and wants Greece to continue to be in the British sphere of influence.

2. LKE - Popular Party of Greece

This party can be considered as a party of the middle. It is the old party of TSALDARIS, and today is under the leadership of his son Constantinos TSALDARIS. This party was responsible for the plebiscite which returned King George II to the throne in 1935. It leans to the right, and although it is not very popular today, (because of its inactivity since 1936) this party can provide necessary leaders who can receive the support of all parties in Greece. Its activity in the days of the German occupation was slight, and not important. Its followers on the other hand have participated in many Nationalist clandestine organizations. Political issues were postponed till Greece was free once more. Today, the party is regaining some of its popularity. It is believed that it would support a movement to return King George II to the throne.

3. PKE - Liberal Party of Greece

This party was formed during the Balkan wars (1912-1913) Eliftherios VENIZELOS. The strength of the party lay in the personality and popularity of its founder. When King Constantine I was deposed in the early 1920's, it was the Liberal Party with VENIZELOS at its head which governed Greece for nearly 10 years. In the early thirties, the Liberals were beaten at the polls by the Popular Party, and the attempt at a "coup d'etat" in 1935 was VENIZELOS inspired. The failure to overthrow the government was the main cause for its political downfall and loss of popularity. With the death of VENIZELOS, the Party leadership was assumed by his life-long friend and crony SOPHOULIS and Sophocles VENIZELOS, the founder's son. In early 1944, it was Sophocles VENIZELOS who unsuccessfully attempted to form a government. Today, in the PLASTIRAS government, many of the cabinet ministers are Liberals. The party itself has very little popular backing, but its leaders are respected and command popular support as Nationalist figures. It is said that the solution of the present day problem is a coalition government with leading cabinet posts given to either Liberals or members of the Popular party.

B. Nationalist Political and Military Organizations.1a EDES - Greek National Democratic League

This organization is the political organization of its military counterpart, the EOKA. The organization has been popularly misrepresented as a military organization, and today all guerilla units of the EOKA are popularly called EDES. This organization was formed in late 1941 by the Greek Government in exile to recruit men, collect arms, munitions, and supplies with the purpose of forming a clandestine military organization to continue resistance against the armies of occupation in Greece. It was directly under the command of Allied Headquarters in the Middle East. Colonel Napoleon ZERDAS became its commanding officer. Headquarters for the organization were located in the mountains of EPIRUS. With Allied help it equipped an army of over 20,000 men. When

its units were attacked by the ELAS in 1943, the organization declared itself for the Nationalists and worked for the day when the Government-in-Exile would return to Greece.

1b EOEA - National Units of Greek Guerillas

This military organization, counterpart of the EDES, under Colonel ZERVAS, successfully kept a large part of EPIRUS free of Germans. Its operations were undertaken under direct orders from Allied Headquarters in the Middle East. This organization rivaled the EAM ELAS in strength. Although most of its units were located in Epirus, it had scattered units all over Greece. In many regions, an ex-army officer organized a guerrilla band and declared himself for EDES. Many times, units were therefore operating for the EDES without the knowledge of EDES headquarters. When the ELAS began its military operations to eliminate all armed opposition organizations in Greece, scattered units which were not dispersed by the ELAS, escaped to Epirus and joined the EDES there. The EDES was the only Nationalist organization which successfully resisted the ELAS. The first ELAS-EDES clash occurred in the summer of 1943. The ELAS succeeded in the past two years in cutting EDES strength to less than one-half its original numbers. When the fighting broke out in Athens in December 1944, the EDES underwent concentrated ELAS attacks, and was evacuated by British ships from the EPIRUS mainland (part of PREVEZA) to the island of Corfu, where 7,000 members of its army are at present located.

2a EKKA - National and Social Liberation

The organization under KARTALIS and Dimitrios PSAROS, was formed under orders from the Allied Headquarters in the Middle East. It recruited men for the 5/42nd Regiment of Evzones, a clandestine military organization armed by the Allied Headquarters. Its work also consisted in editing resistance newspapers and distributing Nationalist propeganda leaflets. The organization began its operation in the early parts of 1943. It signed mutual-assistance pacts with the EAM-ELAS, but in late 1943-early 1944, the organization was attacked by the ELAS, and dispersed. Its leaders who were captured by the ELAS were violently tortured and murdered. The organization worked with the EDES and other Nationalist organizations.

2b 5/42nd Regiment of Evzones

For the organization and history of this British-armed clandestine guerilla organization, see report dated 17 January 1945, subject: Interrogation and Findings; Re: Remnants of the 5/42nd Regiment of Evzones.

3a EKEP - National Committee of Greek Patriots

This nationalist political organization recruited men and collected arms, munitions, and supplies for the ES clandestine military organizations under GIANNAKOPOULOS and KARACHALIOS.

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This organization was strong especially in the Peloponnesus. Some of its work included the printing and distributing of Nationalist propaganda. In early 1944, the EKEP-ES was disarmed by the ELAS and its leaders either taken hostage or murdered. The political leader of the EKEP-ES was KYROU.

3b ES - Greek Army

Under the direction of Colonel Athanasios GIANNAKOPOULOS and Major Christos KARACHALIOS and on orders from the Greek Government-in-Exile, the ES was organized and armed by the EKEP to conduct guerilla operations against the armies of occupation. The region of ELIAS-GORTINIAS-OLYPIAS were controlled by the ES. It had Major "ANTHONY" (British) as its Allied liaison officer. It signed a mutual assistance pact with the EAM-ELAS, but in early 1944, the ELAS attacked and dispersed the organization, taking GIANNAKOPOULOS as hostage (fate unknown) and executing KARACHALIOS. Many of its officers and soldiers escaped to Potias and joined the Security Battalions there.

4. "X" (CHI) - Officer's Organization (Royalist)

Gen. Stephanos LAVDAS organized ex-army officers to prepare for the arrival of the Allies in Greece. When it became evident that the ELAS was determined to eliminate all army officers, the X resolved to oppose EAM-ELAS plans. The organization has done valuable work for the Nationalist cause. It concerned itself with Nationalist propaganda to unite all Nationalist organizations in Greece to fight the EAM-ELAS. Many of its officers were British agents and provided the Allied authorities with valuable information on German installations and troop movements. When the Greek army entered Greece after the German evacuation, all "X" officers joined its ranks and used the army to conduct a Nationalist propaganda campaign. The early street fighting in Piraeus and Athens was between the ELAS and "X". At present the organization is conducting a pro-royalist propaganda campaign.

5. FOA - Patriotic Liberation Organization

Organized by Lt. John VIZANIS, this organization conducted Nationalist propaganda in Athens. Its ranks included many military men as well as civilians. It has done intelligence work for the Allies. In January 1944, VIZANIS was denounced to the German authorities by EAM partisans and was arrested. In an attempt to escape, VIZANIS was killed in a gun fight which resulted in the death of 4 German soldiers. The organization is at present conducting a Nationalist propaganda campaign.

6. BOB - Nationalist Royalist Organization

This organization has been operating a royalist propaganda campaign for over a year. It is very strong in Athens and Patros. When Patros was controlled by the Nationalist Security Battalions, the BOB operated freely. It is violently opposed to EAM-ELAS

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plans, but is willing to allow the people to decide the type of government Greece is to have. Its propaganda is very effective. It is pro-British and its propaganda is based on emulating the constitutional monarchy in Great Britain and clamoring for the same type of government in Greece.

7. RAN - Romelian Eastern Thrace Islands

Organized by Gen Constantinos VENDIRIS in the early days of the German occupation, the RAN worked for a union of Nationalistic organizations to combat the Germans, and later the EAM-ELAS. The organization was strong in Thrace and the islands off the Greek mainland. Its political propaganda campaigns were very effective. General VENDIRIS represented Nationalists organization at the Lebanon Conference in May 1944. At present the organization is limited in its work because of ELAS domination in Thrace.

8. UBE - Serving Northern Greece
and

9. PAO - Pan-Hellenic Liberation Organization

These two organizations were organized in Macedonia to conduct anti-German propaganda and provide guerilla units for its military organization. Both organizations are Nationalist. The ELAS campaign to disband all Nationalist guerilla units resulted in the dispersal of both organizations. Most of its officers and soldiers were either taken hostage or killed by the ELAS. Over 3,000 men of the above organizations were butchered by the ELAS during the summer of 1944 in Macedonia. The organizations opposed the ELAS movement for an autonomous Macedonia and Thrace.

10. EO - Nationalist Organization
and

11. EOE - National Mountainous Greece

Both of these military organizations were small independent units of the EOKS. The latter organization operated in the Peloponnesus under the leadership of Lt. Christos DROSSOPOULOS. Both conducted guerilla warfare against the Italians and Germans. In early 1944, after signing a mutual-aid pact with the EAM, the ELAS proceeded on the following day to attack the EOE and massacre all of the men captured. DROSSOPOULOS and two other officers, SKARTSILAS and NIGIANI were taken prisoner and led to the village of MELISSA near Patios. After being tortured, the trio were put to death by an ELAS court for anti-communist sentiments.

12. TA - Security Battalions

For information on above see report dated 17 January 1945, Subject: Interrogation and Findings; Re: Security Battalions of Patros.

This Agent has compiled the following information on some of the leaders in the EAM and Nationalist organizations. The information is by no means complete, and should not be treated as such.

I. Leaders in the EAM movement.

A. Athanasios KLARAS, alias Aras BELOUCHIOTES

This Moscow-educated, life-long communist was born in Lemna, Greece in 1905. He is reputed to be the real power behind the EAM-ELAS movement. Between 1925 and 1938, KLARAS was arrested for various crimes and convicted on 11 occasions for theft, rioting, forgery and perjury. In 1938, KLARAS was arrested for violating the "Communist Act", Paragraph No. 117 of 1936, which made communist propaganda or activity in Greece a federal offense. He was convicted and imprisoned in 1940. KLARAS was released during the wave of patriotism which swept Greece when the Italians invaded the country. Subject refused to serve in the Greek army and went into hiding. When Greece was occupied by the Italians and Germans, KLARAS, in the company of SIANTOS and PORFIROGENES, organized the EAM movement with the object of eventually declaring in Greece a communist dictatorship. Most of the atrocities and crimes committed by the ELAS are attributed to KLARAS. Subject has invariably used the aliases Aras BELOUCHIOTES, Efthimios KLARAS, ANASTASIADES and DIMITRIADES. Subject is claimed by Nationalists to be the real leader of the KKE, EAM, ELAS and EPON. (See attached clipping).

B. George SIANTOS

Subject is known to be a member of the central committee of the KKE. SIANTOS has been conducting a communist propaganda campaign since 1930. SIANTOS has been arrested by the police several times for his communist activities. He was leader of the general strike in Salonika in 1936. He attempted to overthrow the government and establish a communist autonomous Macedonia. In August 1936, Subject was arrested and exiled. During the German-Italian occupation, SIANTOS reappeared as Secretary General of the KKE, and assisted in the creation of the EAM movement. When the Allies landed in Greece in October 1944, Subject, in spite of the agreement between General SCOBIE and Colonel SERAPHIS (ELAS commanding officer) to disarm the ELAS, spoke from a platform in Constitution Square in Athens on 26 November 1944, as Secretary General of the KKE and announced that the ELAS was the only Greek army in Greece, and would never lay down its arms peacefully. He is reputed to be responsible for the break in negotiations between the Greek Government and the ELAS.

SIANTOS, together with KLARAS and ZACHARIADES, studied at the Moscow Special Agents' School where agents destined for the various countries are schooled in communist propaganda and procedure methods.

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C. PORFIROGENES

Subject is a member of the Central Committee of the KKE during the absence of the party's leader, ZACHARLADES. He, and SIANTOS, were responsible for the communist-inspired disorders in Macedonia in 1936. He has been arrested and convicted on several occasions for communist activity. He was one of the chief organizers of the EAM-EPON and was later on the PEEA Central Committee.

He is accused of betraying Capt. TSIGANTE, who had been sent by Allied Headquarters in the Middle East with instructions concerning the organization and assistance of Nationalist guerilla units, to the Italian police in January 1943. When the EAM was included in the PAPANIREOU Government, Subject was appointed Minister of Labor. With the liberation of Greece, he was sent as representative of the Greek government to Macedonia. He is reported to have carried KKE instructions to the KKE organizations in Macedonia. While there, he conferred with Colonel BAKERTZIS and leaders of the SNCP (Bulgarian Communist Party) regarding the declaration of an autonomous Macedonia and Thrace. He is believed to have given the order for the execution of 4,000 Nationalist hostages in Salonika in November 1944.

D. Alexander SVOLOS

Subject was professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Athens. SVOLOS is a well-known Socialist and is one of the leaders of the Socialist Party of Greece. He used his seat at the University to carry on a socialist propaganda campaign. Although not a communist it is reported that SVOLOS is "romantically in love with Communism." With the coming of the METAXAS dictatorship, SVOLOS was arrested and convicted for his activities and exiled from Greece. Subject returned to Greece after that country's occupation by the Italians and Germans. He had never taken an active part in politics up to this time, but many socialist friends prevailed upon him to accept the leadership of the Socialist Party. He was one of the original organizers of the EAM and was on the Central Committee. In March 1944, SVOLOS became the leader of the PEEA.

He was one of the 3 Socialist delegates to the Lebanon Conference in May 1944, and on 2 September 1944, accepted the cabinet post of Minister of Economy in the PAPANIREOU Government. During the negotiations for the disarming of the ELAS, SVOLOS was one of the EAM delegates. In November 1944, he proposed the union of the ELD and the SKL. On 10 January 1945, SVOLOS announced that the Socialist Party had resigned from the EAM, and issued a statement denouncing KKE-inspired atrocities and crimes committed by the ELAS. He is at present reported to be in hiding.

E. Colonel Stephanos SERAFIS

This infantry officer took part in the Liberal "coup d'etat" against the legal Greek government in 1935. For his revolutionary and treasonable act he was publicly stripped of his rank in Athens

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and sentenced to life imprisonment. With the plebiscite of 1936, King George II pardoned SERAFIS. He did not serve during the Italo-Greek war in 1940-1941. After the fall of Greece, SERAFIS organized and led a guerilla band known as the DAS (Democratic Liberation Army). When the EAM movement was born, SERAFIS joined and was appointed commanding officer of the ELAS. Many ELAS atrocities and crimes are attributed to BELOUCHIOTES and SERAFIS. He is reputed to be ruthless and has a burning ambition to become the No. 1 military man in Greece. Although he was a Liberal, he has been reported to have joined the KKE.

II. Nationalist Leaders

A. General Nicholas PLASTIRAS

This officer fought in the Balkan Wars of 1911-1913 and in the Asia Minor campaign in 1921. In 1922 he led the revolution which dethroned King Constantine I. He established a short-lived dictatorship, and for his act, he was exiled. He lived in France till the liberation of Greece, when he was called to become Prime Minister by Regent Archbishop DAMASILINOS. He is a Nationalist of strong character, and he alone can insure a Nationalist government in Greece. He is at present advocating the creation of a strong national army, the punishment of all the ringleaders of the EAM-ELAS, and the re-establishment of law and order in Greece. He has received the full support of all Nationalist elements in Greece.

B. Colonel Napoleon ZERVAS

This officer fought in all the Greek Wars 1911-1922. For his political activities in 1927, he was dismissed from the army and lived in retirement. ZERVAS is a Liberal and a die-hard Nationalist. He organized the EDES Nationalist guerilla army and fought the Germans and Italians in Epirus. He was under the direct orders of the Greek Government-in-Exile and the Allied Command in the Middle East. In the summer of 1943, his units were attacked by the ELAS. An attempt to reach an agreement failed and these attacks continued. In December 1944 he was forced to evacuate his troops to the island of Corfu where he is at present located.

C. Colonel Athanasios GIANNAKOPOULOS

This infantry colonel was a graduate of the Greek War College and fought in all of Greece's wars from 1912-1940. He was instructed by the Greek Government-in-Exile to organize a guerilla army in the Peloponnese. Under the orders of General KOSMAS, he and Major Christos KARACHALIOS organized the EKEP-ES. During the Nationalist-ELAS fight for control, he signed a mutual-aid agreement with the ELAS to attack the Germans. Instead, the ELAS attacked and dispersed his forces. Subject was taken prisoner and led to an ELAS mountain stronghold. It is believed that he has been executed by the ELAS.

D. Major Christos KARACHALIOS

This infantry officer was a graduate of the Greek War College and distinguished himself against the Italians in Albania during

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the Italo-Greek War, 1940-1941. With GIANNAKOPOULOS he organized the EKEP-ES. When his units were attacked by the ELAS, Subject was taken prisoner, released, and subsequently murdered in December 1943.

E. Colonel Dimitrios PSAROS

This artillery colonel served in World War I, 1914-18, in Asia Minor in 1922, and in the Italo-Greek War, 1940-1941. When the Italians and Germans occupied Greece, he was detailed to organize a guerilla army by Allied Headquarters in the Middle East. PSAROS organized the 5/42nd Regiment of Evzones and conducted military operations against the Germans. On 3 different occasions, his units were attacked and dispersed by the ELAS. On 17 April 1944, PSAROS was taken prisoner by the ELAS and was skinned alive and later his throat was slit. This was the fate of 150 of his officers and men. (See Memo: dated 17 January 1944, Subject: Interrogation and Findings, Re: Remnants of the 5/42nd Regiment of Evzones.)

F. General Constantinos VENDORIS

This officer fought in all the Balkan wars, World War, Asia Minor, and the Italo-Greek War in 1940-41. VENDORIS organized the RAN, and helped to organize the Security Battalions. A Nationalist of strong character, he escaped to Cairo and in May 1944, he represented the Nationalists organizations at the Lebanon Conference. He was made Chief of Staff of the Greek Army, but EAM-ELAS objections led to his resignation. He is at present military attache in France for the Greek Government.

AGENT'S NOTES

Investigation has convinced this Agent that:

- 1) The EAM-ELAS are both controlled by the Communist party.
- 2) The resignation of the ELD and SKE from the EAM officially divorces Socialist elements from the EAM.
- 3) The fight being waged now is purely between Nationalism and Communism.
- 4) The plan of the KKE over the past three years has been:
 - a) The creation of a communist-controlled popular front movement.
 - b) Creation of a strong army.
 - c) By force, if necessary, declare a dictatorship of the proletariat in Greece.
- 5) To accomplish this the KKE-EAM-ELAS:
 - a) Offered to declare Macedonia and Thrace autonomous against the will of the peoples there. The reason for this was to gain the support of the Bulgarian Communist party.
 - b) Give Epirus and Corfu to Albania.
 - c) Began to eliminate army officers, leading Nationalists, intellectuals and opposition political leaders.
 - d) Attempted to destroy all Nationalist guerilla units, and thus eliminate all armed opposition. Their plan of creating a proletariat dictatorship in Greece would then materialize.

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- e) Attempted to destroy all police agencies.
- f) Prepared to fight off an Allied invasion with the hope of attracting world sympathy by presenting a picture of British guns forcing a government on the people against its will.
- g) The ELAS is responsible for the deaths of thousands of men, women and children in Greece.

It has been pointed out to this Agent that the over-all international picture assumes much greater proportions. It is a known fact that Russian influence has spread into the Balkans. Rumania and Bulgaria have been occupied by the Russians; Russian influence is very pronounced in Yugoslavia and Albania, and to declare Greece a communist State would place Russian influence in the Mediterranean. The British foreign policy regarding the Mediterranean would then suffer a terrible blow. The British policy in Greece is lauded by the Nationalists, because Communism, to them is anathema. The majority of the Greek peoples are characteristically inclined, and fear communism. However, the highly organized KKE-EAM-ELAS, through coercion and intimidation, keeps its strangle-hold on the people of Greece. As long as this threat of force exists in Greece, free elections are an impossibility. In free elections, the EAM-KKE will never win, and that is the main reason for its refusal to disarm the ELAS, and release the hostages held by them. Once this is done, all their work will have been done in vain, and their plan for a communist dictatorship in Greece foiled.

NICHOLAS A. NATSIOS
Special Agent
Counter Intelligence Corps.

5 Inclosures:

- Incl #1 - Criminal Record of Athanasios KLARAS
- Incl #2 - Translation of Propaganda Circular by EOB
- Incl #3 - Translation of EAM Propaganda leaflet.
- Incl #4 - Translation of Royalist Propaganda leaflet.
- Incl #5 - Translation of Nationalist Propaganda leaflet.

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