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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION OF INVESTIGATION  
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL DATED  
17 JULY 1947 AND ENCLOSED PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON INCIDENTS OF KAPNOTOPOS AND ANGISTRON-LIPA

July 17th, 1947.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit, for the information  
of the members of the Security Council, preliminary report  
on the alleged incidents of Kapnotopos and Angistron-Lipa  
on the Greco-Yugoslav border.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your obedient servant,

(signed)

Z. Gawrak

Z. Gawrak,  
Chairman of the Commission.

Mr. Oscar Lange,  
President to the Security Council,  
Lake Success.

/SUBSIDIARY GROUP

SUBSIDIARY GROUP OF COMMISSION OF INVESTIGATION CONCERNING  
GREEK FRONTIER INCIDENTS

PRELIMINARY REPORT

ON INCIDENTS

OF

KAPNOTOPOS

AND

ANGISTRON-LIPA

/INDEX

# INDEX

	Page
I. INTRODUCTION	
A. TERMS OF REFERENCE	5
B. GREEK CHARGES	5
1. Alleged Incident of Kapnotopos	5
2. Alleged Incident of Angistron-Lipa	6
C. METHOD OF PROCEEDING	9
1. Presentation of Greek Case	9
2. Preliminary Debate of the Sub-Commission on Alleged Incidents of Kapnotopos and Angistron-Lipa	10
3. Sand Table Demonstration	11
4. Hearing of Witnesses	11
5. Visits to Frontier	12
(a) First Visit to Frontier on 2 and 3 June	12
(b) Second Visit to Frontier at Koula on 11 June	12
II. KAPNOTOPOS INCIDENT	
A. GREEK CHARGES THAT THE BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS GUERRILLA MOVEMENT IN GREECE BY HOSPITALIZING WOUNDED GUERRILLAS	13
B. EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF GREEK CHARGES	
1. On the Spot Investigation	14
2. Evidence of Witnesses	15
(a) Escorting of Wounded to and Across Frontier	15
(b) Hospitalization Inside Bulgaria	16
(c) Return of Wounded to Greece after Hospitalization	16
C. DISCREPANCIES	17
D. REFUTATION	17
E. REASONS FOR NOT COMPLETING IN BULGARIA INVESTIGATION OF GREEK CASE	17
III. ANGISTRON-LIPA INCIDENT	
A. EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF GREEK CHARGES	18
1. On the Spot Investigation	18
2. Evidence of Witnesses	18
(a) Evidence that Leaders Newly Arrived from Bulgaria Assisted in Direction of Attack on Angistron and Krassohorich and that Members of Guerilla Bands came from Bulgaria	18

2. Evidence of Witnesses (Continued)	Page
(b) Evidence that guerilla was in possession of Identity Card describing bearer as member of Bulgarian Army	19
(c) Evidence that some members of these guerilla bands fought on Bulgarian soil	20
(d) Evidence that these bands retreated into Bulgarian territory after the engagement with arms and ammunition	21
(e) Evidence that Bulgarian troops and civilians were aware that Greek guerillas were fighting on Bulgarian territory	24
(f) Evidence that there is a camp at Berkovitsa in Bulgaria for the guerillas	25
(g) Evidence that wounded guerillas are hospitalized at Berkovitsa	25
(h) Evidence that guerilla bands returned to Greece from Bulgaria	26
(i) Evidence that food, arms and ammunition were supplied from Bulgaria	26
(j) Evidence that Greek soldiers fought on Bulgarian territory	28
(k) Evidence that Greek soldiers fired from Greek territory at Guerillas on Bulgarian soil	29
B. BULGARIAN REFUTATION	29
C. REASONS FOR NOT COMPLETING IN BULGARIA INVESTIGATION OF GREEK CASE	30
IV. RESERVATIONS	30
APPENDICES	
A. RESERVATIONS OF DELEGATIONS	31
B. MAP ILLUSTRATING INCIDENTS OF KAPNOTOPOS AND ANGISTRON-LIPA	33
C. VERBATIM STATEMENT MADE BY GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE AT THE FORTY-SECOND MEETING HELD AT SALONIKA ON 2 JULY 1947	34

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Subsidiary Group has investigated the alleged incidents of KAPNOTOPOS and ANGISTRON-LIPA in accordance with its mandate "to ascertain the facts relating to the alleged border violations along the frontier between Greece on the one hand and Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia on the other". (S/AC.4/5, S/AC.4/223, S/AC.4/SG/3).

The limitations imposed by paragraph V of the Commission's Resolution of 29 April (S/AC.4/SG/3), have been observed. In accordance with paragraph VII of that Resolution, verbatim records of the evidence heard and of the relevant debates of the Sub-commission are annexed to this Report as Appendices D and E.

### B. GREEK CHARGES

#### 1. Alleged Incident of Kapnotopos

"On 4 April 1947 troops of 35th Gk brigade clashed with a band 170 strong at the position "P" 59-37, i.e., 12 kms south of KATO VRONDOU.

"The fight was fatal for the bandits. Many were killed, wounded or taken prisoners.

"On 12 April 1947 the remaining of the bandits arrived at the locality KALIVIA-KARALI "K" 54-09, carrying along with them a few wounded.

"Here, upon the instructions of the chief of the band, a group of nine (9) bandits was formed which was ordered to evacuate into the Bulgarian territory the following four (4) bandits wounded in the fight of 4 April 1947:

/(a) DIMITRIOS KALOUDHIS,

- (a) DIMITRIOS KALOUDHIS, alias KARAIKAKIS
- (b) ARKHONDIS ZAMBOUNIDHIS, alias ELEFTHEROTIS
- (c) NIKOLAOS STAVROU, alias TSOLIAS
- (d) A bandit known as POLIKHRONIS, his identity being unknown.

"This group, headed by IOANNIS KATSAROS, alias KIMON, followed the route shown in the attached diagram and making intermediate stops at:

- (a) KALIVIA-KARALI
- (b) LAILAS
- (c) FAIA PETRA
- (d) VRISES, reached KAPNOTOPOS village and in this area entered the Bulgarian territory on the night of the 14th and turned the wounded over to the bandits TSATLOYANNIS and BARBAS who remained with the wounded in BULGARIAN territory.

"The other seven (7) escorts headed by KIMON re-entered Greek territory and rejoined their band."

2. Alleged Incident of Angistron-Line

"On 15 April 1947 at 1900 hrs a force of 170 bandits attacked the Greek frontier post at KRASSOCHORI - K (40-25) and the platoon at ANGISTRON - K (35-22). Among the bandits there were 3 platoon commanders and 2 section commanders who had arrived from BULGARIA the day before. On account of their major forces they overwhelmed the Greek troops at this post. Some of the men were taken prisoners while the rest managed to get away.

"The following day troops of the 35th brigade were set to the pursuit of the bandits. At 1600 hrs they made contact with the bandits who were occupying positions on the hill that props out of Height LIPA - K (445-230). The right flank of the bandits was abutting on the frontier line. 40 bandits were north of the frontier line at a distance of 200 meters inside the BULGARIAN territory. Another group of bandits moved along the mule track just north of Height LIPA. The bandits who were within the BULGARIAN territory fired at the Greek troops with German quick-firers, LMGs Bren and with a 2-inch mortar.

/ "For two

"For two days no action was taken on account of the difficult position in which the Greek troops were found, unable to move towards the BULGARIAN frontier line.

"On 18 April 1947 at 1530 hrs Height K(445-230) was occupied by the Greek troops by a surprise attack.

"A captured bandit showed to a Greek captain 50 bandits hiding behind an elevation of the ground inside the BULGARIAN territory. At once the Greek troops moved towards the frontier line. The bandits were panic stricken and could be seen running inside the BULGARIAN territory.

"After the occupation of Height 1501, the bandits who were at the locality K(425-237) were also panic stricken and fled inside the BULGARIAN territory.

"During a search made on the field of the bandits who had launched the attack upon the ANGISTRON platoon, a BULGARIAN identity card was found belonging to PATSAVCOURAS CHRISTOS from ANGISTRON, who was known to be in BULGARIA since a long time.

"During the course towards Height 1501 one could see bandits casting off weapons of all sorts inside the BULGARIAN territory.

"During a search made in the pockets of a bandit killed on Height LIPA, among other documents in BULGAR, his identity card and his photograph were found. From this it results that the bandit was KANOUTSIS MICHAEL, son of EVANGELOS, born at ADRIANI village in 1926 (Drama area). It is stated in his identity card that he joined the BULGARIAN Army on 2 February 1945. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant-Major and served continually in the BULGARIAN Army until August 1946. It appears that he was posted to the Greek bands.

"In view of the fact that the entry of the whole of the guerilla force into the BULGARIAN territory was ascertained beyond doubt, a meeting with the BULGARIAN frontier sector authorities was sought for in order to have the bandits, who had entered BULGARIAN territory, turned over. The following meetings took place:

/(a) In the

- (a) In the evening of 18 April 1947 meeting between Gend. W.O. BATHELOS, Chief of the Passport Control and the BULGARIAN Captain YIAGOF ZIFKOF. The Bulgarian Captain stated that he knew nothing as yet.
- (b) On 19 April 1947 at 0310 meeting between the same persons. The BULGARIAN Captain admitted the existence of bandits inside the Bulgarian territory and promised that they would be disarmed and confined in a camp. On being asked whether he was ready to hand a numerical and nominal list of the bandits, he stated that he would reply later.
- (c) On 19 April 1947 at 1700 hrs meeting between Cavalry Major SYRMOPOULOS and the same Captain ZIFKOF. The Bulgarian Captain asked for a note stating the GREEK accusations and an hour's time to give the reply.
- (d) At 1800 hrs of the same day another meeting was held between the same persons. The BULGARIAN Captain admitted anew that the bandits had actually entered the BULGARIAN territory and were disarmed and confined. He alleged that GREEK soldiers had also entered the BULGARIAN territory. The GREEK Major insisted that an investigation be made on the spot but the Bulgarian Captain refused stating that a BULGARIAN Colonel was expected from SOFIA to examine the case.
- (e) On 20 April 1947 at 1600 hrs a meeting was held between the same persons. The BULGARIAN Captain stated that no other officer was expected. He indirectly admitted the entry into BULGARIAN territory of 160 bandits, but nevertheless refused to sign the usual protocol for the meetings held. The GREEK Major again insisted upon obtaining a numerical and nominal list of the bandits who had entered Bulgarian territory, but in reply he only received a vague arrangement for another meeting at which he stated he would hand the list. Despite repeated requests no meeting took place nor was any list handed."

/(The above



(The above account of the Greek charges relating to both the alleged incidents of KAPNOTOPOS and ANGISTRON-LIPA has been taken verbatim from the documentation furnished by the Greek Liaison Representative (S/AC.4/SG/5 and S/AC.4/SG/8).

### C. METHOD OF PROCEEDING

#### 1. Presentation of Greek Case

In a letter dated 14 May 1947 (document S/AC.4/SG/1), the Greek Liaison Representative brought for the first time to the attention of Subsidiary Group, a series of five incidents, i.e.,

- (a) Kouka-Palaion Triethnes
- (b) Height 1034
- (c) Kapnotopos
- (d) Boles
- (e) Angistron-Lipa

(Incidents (a), (b) and (d) allegedly occurred at the Greco-Yugoslav border and incidents (c) and (e) at the Greco-Bulgarian border).

On 20 May and 27 May 1947, respectively, the Greek Liaison Representative transmitted to Subsidiary Group his documentation on the incident at Angistron-Lipa. (No. (e) - document S/AC.4/SG/5), and the incident of Kapnotopos (No. (c) - document S/AC.4/SG/8).

At the fourth Meeting of Subsidiary Group held on 26 May, the Greek Liaison Representative described the general outlines the two alleged incidents of KAPNOTOPOS and ANGISTRON-LIPA (See document S/AC.4/SG/SR/4, pages 7, 8, 9), and expressed the opinion that "it would be of real importance to the Security Council to have these incidents investigated before it took decisions regarding practical means to be adopted for the pacification of Greek northern frontiers."

He then demonstrated to the Delegates, by means of a large-scale map the scene of the two alleged incidents.

/2. Preliminary

2. Preliminary Debate of the Sub-Commission on Alleged Incidents of Angistron-Lipa and Kapnotopos

Subsidiary Group decided at its fifth Meeting on 27 May to investigate the ANGISTRON-LIPA incident at the earliest possible date, since the documentation covering that incident established a prima facie case. It was also decided that a telegram would be sent to the Bulgarian Government requesting that Subsidiary Group be granted facilities to cross the border at Koula and Lipa to examine the terrain and to hear witnesses on Bulgarian territory (See document S/AC.4/SG/SR/5, pages 7-8).

The Soviet Delegate objected to both of these decisions. He thought that, although these incidents were pertinent and merited an investigation by Subsidiary Group, it was not advisable to start the investigation in the absence of a Bulgarian Liaison Representative. Such absence made it difficult for the Subsidiary Group to contact directly the government concerned and to work in an impartial way. Moreover, in his opinion, the Subsidiary Group was acting outside its terms of reference in working without a Bulgarian Liaison Representative being present.

At its sixth Meeting held on 28 May, Subsidiary Group made a preliminary examination of the KAPNOTOPOS incident and because of the proximity of this area to the scene of the alleged ANGISTRON-LIPA incident, decided to investigate both incidents in the course of the one trip. (See document S/AC.4/SG/SR/6, page 5).

It was also decided at the same meeting to request the Bulgarian Government to assemble eleven witnesses who were in Bulgaria and whose names were to be conveyed by letter to the Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs. (S/AC.4/SG/SR/6, page 7).

3. Sand Table Demonstration

A sand table demonstration of both incidents was given on 29 May by the Greek Brigadier KONTOSSIS, who came to Salonika from Angistrion for that purpose.

4. Hearing of Witnesses

At the tenth Meeting held on 2 June at Damaskinon, the Subsidiary Group heard one Greek witness, FOTIOS FOTIANES (See document S/AC.4/SG/PV/10, pages 20-32).

The Meeting was adjourned until 8:15 p.m. of the same day. During the second part of the tenth Meeting, held at Sidirokastron on 2 June, the Sub-Commission heard a second Greek witness, DIMITRIOS PAPANAYIAN (See document S/AC.4/SG/PV/10-I).

The two witnesses mentioned above gave testimony on the KAPNOTOPOS incident.

At its thirteenth Meeting held at Salonika on Friday, 6 June, the Subsidiary Group heard the Greek witnesses APOSTOLOS ARVANITIDES and PETROS RACHMANIDES, on the KAPNOTOPOS incident (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13).

During the fourteenth Meeting (first part), held at Salonika on 7 June, Subsidiary Group heard the witnesses CHRISTOS XIANTISOS and ALEXANDROS NIKOLAIDES on the incident of ANGISTRON-LIPA. (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, pages 1-22 and pages 22-36, respectively).

At the second part of the fourteenth Meeting, the Greek witness STAVROS CHARGEAVANIS was heard on the same incident (See document S/AC.4/SG/PV/14a, pages 1-8).

/The witness

The witness PANAGIOTIS XANTHOPOULOS was also heard at the second part of the fourteenth Meeting (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14a, pages 8-16). Although he was not directly connected with the incidents under consideration, he gave information of a general nature on how the Greek guerillas operating in the area of Angistro-Lipa were supplied with food and arms from Bulgaria.

5. Visits to Frontier

(a) First Visit to frontier on 2 and 3 June

Subsidiary Group left Salonika on 2 June to examine on the spot the Greek presentation of the ANGISTRON-LIPA and KAPNOTOPOS incidents.

On 2 June Subsidiary Group from the hill DAMASKINON surveyed the area involved in the KAPNOTOPOS incident.

On 3 June Subsidiary Group reached the summit of MOUNT LIPA after a seven hours trip partly by car and partly by horseback, and proceeded to examine from the Greek side of the frontier the scene of the engagement on MOUNT LIPA. Access into Bulgarian territory was refused by the Bulgarian N.C.O. in charge of the frontier at that point. The circumstances of that refusal have been described in a telegram sent to the Chairman of the Commission on 3 June from Sidirokastron. (See document S/AC.4/SG/18). A copy of the telegram was sent to the President of the Security Council on 5 June. (See also S/AC.4/SG/35/Rev.1)

(b) Second Visit to Frontier at Koula on 11 June

The Subsidiary Group, having granted the request of the Bulgarian Government for a ten days postponement proceeded to KOULA on 11 June in order to continue in Bulgaria its investigation of both incidents.

/The Subsidiary

The Subsidiary Group had asked of the Bulgarian Government that it assemble 11 named witnesses as well as any witnesses they themselves might wish to produce. The Subsidiary Group had also informed the Bulgarian Government of its intention to visit the area of the alleged incidents on Bulgarian territory, the camp of Berkovitsa, and any other places it should deem indispensable to a complete investigation after hearing all the evidence. It had also notified the Bulgarian authorities of its intention to bring five Greek witnesses into Bulgaria. All the necessary facilities were requested.

The Subsidiary Group went to the frontier post of Koula on 11 June at 1300. After consultation between the President and Bulgarian officials at the frontier it decided to return to Salonika without entering Bulgaria. These events have been fully described in a special report sent by cable on 16 June to the Commission (see document S/AC.4/SG/35/Rev.1).

## II. KAPNOTOPOS INCIDENT

### A. GREEK CHARGES THAT THE BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS THE GUERRILLA MOVEMENT IN GREECE BY HOSPITALIZING WOUNDED GUERRILLAS

In the original documentation on the KAPNOTOPOS incident submitted by the Greek Liaison Officer, it was charged that after an engagement with Greek Government forces at BOZDAG on 4 April, four wounded guerillas were conducted in mid-April to a point near the Bulgarian frontier at KAPNOTOPOS across which they were subsequently escorted for hospitalization in Bulgaria.

In a supplementary document (S/AC.4/SG/15), the Greek Liaison Representative stated that:

"In the camp at BERKOVITSA there functions a special hospital where bandits wounded on Greek territory are taken for treatment.

"It is especially noteworthy that the bandit RACHMANIDES has formally stated that the wounded bandits of the KAPNOTOPOS incident were hospitalized in the above-mentioned camp."

/It was also

It was also charged that wounded guerillas returned to Greece after hospitalization in Bulgaria (S/AC.4/SG/PV/10, page 4).

## B. EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF GREEK CHARGES

### 1. On-the-Spot Investigation

During the 10th Meeting held at DAMASKINON on 2 June, the Sub-Commission heard Major SYRMOPOULOS of the Greek Army who gave a detailed description of this incident. DAMASKINON Post located on the top of a hill had been chosen by the Greek authorities because it was easier therefrom to examine the topography of the place where the incident occurred and to realize visually how the wounded guerillas could have crossed the Bulgarian border which, in that area, runs along a small river.

The Soviet Delegate considered that investigation on the spot must include investigation of the spot of the incident. On his proposal, the Subsidiary Group decided to send a team in order to examine a hill called KARA-DAS where, according to the witnesses' testimonies, the four Greek wounded guerillas and their escorts had rested and had made a fire to broil two lambs just before the night when they crossed into Bulgaria. The purpose of this investigation was to discover the traces left by the group of guerillas: charred wood, tin cans, etc.

Subsidiary Group's decision was based on the consideration that wherever it made investigations in Greece, in Albania, in Yugoslavia, or in Bulgaria, if the evidence furnished by the witnesses indicated the desirability of examining forthwith a place not on the itinerary, it should be done without delay.

Although the Greek Military Authorities agreed to make preparations to facilitate the investigation on the spot, they pointed out that, due to the late hour, they were not able to guarantee the investigating team full security.

The Chairman presented these facts to the Soviet Delegate and the latter agreed to withdraw his former proposal. The other two members of the team were willing to continue with the investigation.

2. Evidence of Witnesses

(a) Escorting of wounded to and across frontier

The original allegations of the Greek Liaison Representative were supported by the written testimonies of the captain in charge of the Greek army troops engaged in the BOZDAG action of 4 April in which the four guerillas were wounded and of three guerillas who had taken part in that same action. These testimonies were made under oath before the Greek authorities and were presented to the Sub-Commission by the Greek Liaison Officer (S/AC.4/SG/8, pages 6-13).

Two of these, FOTIOS FOTIADIS and DIMITRIOS PAPAPAVLOU were examined by Subsidiary Group. Both described in detail the wounds of the four wounded guerillas, POLYCHRONIS, KARAIKAKIS, TSOLIAS, ELEFTHEROTIS. In particular, TSOLIAS was described as being wounded in the left arm and left shoulder blade and ELEFTHEROTIS as having a slight bullet wound in the lower left chest or abdomen (S/AC.4/SG/PV/10, pages 30-31, and S/AC.4/SG/PV/10-I, page 5).

Both detailed the itinerary of the trip when they conducted these four wounded from KALIVIA-KARALI which they left on Holy Saturday, 12 April to the hill KARA-DAS in the TSINGELI mountain chain. This hill, which is close to the Bulgarian border, was reached on the following Tuesday morning, 15 April (S/AC.4/SG/PV/10, page 21, S/AC.4/SG/8, page 7).

The four wounded were allegedly escorted across the border on the night of 15 April by TSATLOYANNIS and BARBAS (S/AC.4/SG/8, pages 1-2).

Neither of the two witnesses examined crossed the border with them (S/AC.4/SG/PV/10, page 21 and S/AC.4/SG/PV/10-I, page 3).

FOTIADIS testified that on the return of the chief of the band which took the four wounded to the point from which they allegedly crossed into Bulgaria, the chief said:

/"You must not

"You must not say what we have done, that we put these people back into Bulgarian soil" (S/AC.4/SG/PV/10, page 22).

(b) Hospitalization inside Bulgaria

Two witnesses, RACHMANIDES and ARVANITIDES testified that they saw TSOLIAS in the hospital at BERKOVITSA in Bulgaria towards the end of April (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 4 and pages 28-30).

ARVANITIDES said that he spoke to TSOLIAS who had bandages "going around" both shoulders (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 11). He did not know TSOLIAS before seeing him at the BERKOVITSA Hospital (Ibid, page 4). Another witness YIANTSOS testified that he had seen ELEFOTHEROTIS (ARKHOWTIS) in the hospital at BERKOVITSA at the same time (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, pages 2, 6). The two escorts, TSATLOYANNIS and BARBAS were also claimed by witnesses to have been seen at BERKOVITSA towards the end of April, the former by RACHMANIDES (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, pages 28-30) and the latter by YIANTSOS (S/AC.4/SG/15, page 2). YIANTSOS also testified that the chief of his group in the BOZDAG engagement of 4 April, MITROUSSIS BRENDEKAS who had been wounded in that action was being treated in the hospital at BERKOVITSA, later in the same month. He had spoken with him there (S/AC.4/SG/15, page 2 and S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 6).

(c) Return of wounded to Greece after hospitalization in Bulgaria

The Greek Major SYRMOPCULOS, explaining the incident at DAMASKINON post stated:

"In December 1946, we have seen that many bandits were taken into Bulgarian soil and were hospitalized in various Bulgarian hospitals, and established in the hospital of BERKOVITSA.....

"My services have been directed to the seeing of many cases of the transfer of wounded people into Bulgaria. I can give you an example of the two bandits. This example is not of the actual incident, but it shows that the two bandits KOSMIDES and RAFTOUDI, who were chiefs of the bandits here, entered Bulgarian

/soil



soil on the first of January this year. They have been kept at the hospitals for two months. They came back on the 1st of May and they are now the chiefs of the band who operate here."

(S/AC.4/SG/PV/10, page 4).

The witness DIMITRIOS PAPAPAVLOU stated that he had heard that VASILIOS RAFTOUDIS had returned to this district from Bulgaria

(S/AC.4/SG/PV/10-I, pages 16-17).

#### C. DISCREPANCIES

The witness FOTIADIS stated that there were 11 members in his band (S/AC.4/SG/PV/10, page 24). The witness PAPAPAVLOU stated that there were 14 people in his band, but it is not clear whether the wounded are included in this number (S/AC.4/SG/PV/10-I, pages 3, 6, 7, 11). In his original deposition, the witness had spoken of 13 members. In his written testimony YIANTISOS said that at BERKOVITSA he "saw the wounded bandits ARKHONTIS AND BARBAS...both being wounded in the fight of BOZDAG on 4 April 1947" (S/AC.4/SG/15, page 7).

In his oral evidence before the Sub-Commission, YIANTISOS said that when he had known BARBAS at the hospital in BERKOVITSA, BARBAS was wounded in the arm (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 2).

PAPAPAVLOU stated that BARBAS (the father of ORINOS) was not wounded in the BOZDAG engagement. "He was taken simply because he was an old man". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/10-I, page 6).

#### D. REFUTATION

For reasons already reported, Subsidiary Group heard no Bulgarian refutation (S/AC.4/SG/35/Rev.1).

#### E. REASONS FOR NOT COMPLETING IN BULGARIA INVESTIGATION OF GREEK CASE

The reasons why Subsidiary Group did not complete in Bulgaria its investigation of the Greek case have already been reported in document S/AC.4/SG/35/Rev.1,

/III. ANGISTRON-LIPA

### III. ANGISTRON-LIPA INCIDENT

#### A. EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF GREEK CHARGES

##### 1. On-the-Spot Investigation

On 3 June Subsidiary Group heard on MOUNT LIPA a detailed description of the LIPA engagement by Captain IOANNIS LICUSSAS, who commanded a platoon of Greek soldiers which had participated in the fight against the guerrillas there.

##### 2. Evidence of Witnesses

- (a) Evidence that leaders newly arrived from Bulgaria assisted in direction of attack on Angistron and Krassohorion and that members of guerilla bands came from Bulgaria.

In his written testimony STAVROS GHARGHAVANIS said:

"In the evening of April 15, 5 bandits wearing American uniforms of khaki gabardine, coming from BULKES via BULGARIA, got to the hide-out of the band.

"Three of them were posted to GEORGIOS' Company whereas the other two to PETROS' Company as platoon commanders and section commanders. After the arrival of these 5 bandits, 2 sections entered the villages ANGISTRON and KRASSOHORION while another section of which source was member remained on the Height." (S/AC.4/SG/5, page 14).

When cross-examined by Subsidiary Group GHARGHAVANIS stated that the five new arrivals said that "they came from inside which means Serbia and Yugoslavia. They said they came from BULKES." (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14a, page 2). He described the three individuals who had joined his own company (that of GEORGIOS) the evening before the day of the attack on ANGISTRON:

"One was tall and thin, the other was rather short and fat, and was wearing new clothes: the third one had no particular sign and was of medium size" (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14a, page 6). He had spoken with the "tall one" whose name was KOSTAS and who was the "chief of the platoon". (Ibid).

/The witness

The witness CHRISTOS YIANTISOS, a member of these bands, stated that the chief of his platoon which took part in the attack of ANGISTRON, was KOSTAS. KOSTAS, who first joined them when they arrived at ANGISTRON, was dressed in "the uniform they wear in BULKES". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, pages 6-10). In answer to a question "How did the witness know that this was a uniform from BULKES?", the witness replied: "We knew that they were going to BULKES where they had a uniform. They told us how they received this uniform. Our Chief (GEORGIOS) had been there and had this uniform and he told us about BULKES". (Ibid, page 21).

The Greek Liaison Representative circulated to delegates a Bulgarian identity card which was alleged to have been found during a search made on the field of the "bandits" who had launched the attack on the ANGISTRON platoon. This identity card was alleged to belong to RIZOS PATSAVOURES "from ANGISTRON, who has known to be in BULGARIA since a long time". The identity card was headed KINGDOM OF BULGARIA and described the bearer RIZO PATSAVOUROF a resident in TSINGEL (ANGISTRON) and of BULGAR nationality. It was issued on 19 August 1942. (S/AC.4/SG/5, page 19).

#### Discrepancies

In his written testimony, STAIROS GEARGHAVANIS, stated that on the evening of 15 April, two "bandits" newly arrived from Bulgaria were posted to PETROS' Company as platoon commanders (S/AC.4/SG/5, page 14).

PETROS RACHMANIDES, who belonged to PETROS' Company (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 34), in his oral testimony before the Sub-Commission when asked "On the evening of the attack (on ANGISTRON-KRASSOCHORTON) did any new individuals join the band before the attack started?", replied "No, I did not see any".

- (b) Evidence that guerilla was in possession of identity card describing bearer as member of Bulgarian Army

The Greek Liaison Representative presented to the Sub-Commission a  
/Bulgarian

Bulgarian Identity Card and a leave ticket which were allegedly found in the pockets of a guerilla killed on MOUNT LIPA. This identity card, No. 645, issued in BERKOVITSA on 27 December 1945, belonged to MIKHAIL VAGELOF KANOUTSOF (KANOUTSIS). It certified that the bearer was on active service and served in the 4/24 frontier sub-sector. The leave ticket authorized a return journey at a reduced rate from BERKOVITSA to SVETIVRATS during his leave period from 9 July to 26 July.

The documentation concerning the ANGISTRON-LIPA incident submitted by the Greek Liaison Representative contained the following statement:

"In 1944, he (KANOUTSIS), took refuge in Bulgaria and on 2 Febr. 45 joined the Bulgarian Army; he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant Major and served continually until August 1946.

"In August 1946 he received a movement order and was posted to Kapetan FOTINOS' band acting in the area of ALI-BABA and BOZDAG, being used as a liaison". (S/AC.4/SG/5, page 20).

(c) Evidence that some members of these guerilla bands fought on Bulgarian soil

According to the documentation submitted by the Greek Liaison Representative, six Greek soldiers and one captured guerilla stated that during the action on MOUNT LIPA from 17-19 April, they had seen guerillas on Bulgarian soil. Five soldiers stated that they had been fired at by guerillas from within Bulgarian territory (S/AC.4/SG/5). The captured guerilla testified before the Subsidiary Group and one of the Greek soldiers gave a demonstration of the incident on MOUNT LIPA.

During the on-the-spot investigation on MOUNT LIPA, the Greek Captain IOANNIS LIOUSSAS pointed out the positions of two machine gun emplacements from which the guerillas had fired at his company throughout 17 and 18 April. One was located several metres from where the Subsidiary Group made its investigation - at a spot which, according to the Bulgarian frontier guards, was in Bulgarian territory, /but which was

but which was declared by Greek officials to be on the frontier line. The other was located some 100 metres within Bulgarian territory.

On 17 and 18 April, guerillas could be seen entering and coming out of Bulgarian territory, according to Captain LIOUSSAS. The former machine gun post was captured by Captain LIOUSSAS at 1530, 18 April and one guerilla captured. This prisoner, ALEXANDROS NIKOLAIDES pointed out 50 guerillas resting further within Bulgarian territory (see also S/AC.4/SG/5, page 7).

This evidence was confirmed by ALEXANDROS NIKOLAIDES, who further said:

"Nearly all the Andartes were on Bulgarian soil. Only I and my small group were on the demarkation line. They could fire on the Greeks but the Greeks could not fire on them because they were on Bulgarian soil...Three Bulgarians came when we were in the mountain. My group was at the first line; but about 30 metres behind us were our chiefs SKORINOSPEKOS and LAMEROS and FOTINOS. The three Bulgarians went to them and stayed there for half an hour". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 23).

The witness CERISTOS YIANTSCOS, when asked a question "Were they aware that they were on Bulgarian soil while fighting", replied, "Yes". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 22).

#### Refutation

An indirect refutation is to be found in the documentation supplied by the Greek Liaison Representative in which the Bulgarian Captain YIAGOF ZIEKOF is stated to have said:

"...Our information do not accord with the fact that the Greek partisans made use of Bulgarian territory and fired at Greek troops from it..." (S/AC.4/SG/5, page 17).

- (d) Evidence that these bands retreated into Bulgarian territory after the engagement with arms and ammunition

According to the documentation submitted by the Greek authorities

/to the

to the Subsidiary Group, five Greek soldiers and one captured guerilla testified that they had seen guerillas retreat with their arms into Bulgaria after the action on MOUNT LIPA (S/AC.4/SG/5).

This same documentation contained written depositions of W. O. GRIGORIOS BATHRELOS and Major PANAYOTIS SYRMOPOULOS, relating to two meetings held with the Bulgarian Captain YIAGOF ZIFKOF at KOULA frontier post 19 April. Captain ZIFKOF was stated to have admitted at his first meeting with W. O. BATHRELOS that the "bandits" had entered Bulgarian territory through a point lying between LIPA and LENHOVON, and that they had been arrested, disarmed and confined. (S/AC.4/SG/5, page 17).

At his second meeting with Major SYRMOPOULOS, Captain ZIFKOF is stated to have repeated these admissions. At both these meetings, and at a third meeting on 20 April, he refused to comply with a request to hand over a numerical and nominal list of the "bandits" disarmed, or to sign a protocol of the meeting. He said that he was awaiting the arrival of a Bulgarian staff officer (S/AC.4/SG/5, page 18).

Two Greek soldiers who were present at these meetings, confirmed that Captain ZIFKOF had made the above admissions (Ibid).

The following witnesses gave oral evidence before the Subsidiary Group that guerillas had retreated armed into Bulgaria:

APOSTOLOS ARVANITIDES  
PETROS RACHMANIDES  
CHRISTOS YIANTOS  
STAVROS GHARGHAVANIS  
ALEXANDROS NIKOLAIDES

The witness APOSTOLOS ARVANITIDES said:

"The Greek Army encircled us and then our chiefs asked us to pass over the frontier and we went into Bulgarian soil".

(S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 5).

He further said that 135 members crossed into Bulgarian territory and were not disarmed until they reached PETROVO (Ibid, page 12).

/The witness,

The witness, PETROS RACHMANIDES said that about 135 crossed into Bulgaria and assembled at a Bulgarian frontier post. (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 32). They kept their arms until they reached PETROVO one day later.

The witness, CHRISTOS YIANTISOS, gave testimony to the same effect. (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 15). He also stated that two Bulgarian soldiers from the frontier post accompanied them to PETROVO, where they gave up their arms (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, pages 5 and 14). "It is five hours' walk from PETROVO to the frontier." (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 5).

The witness STAVROS GHARGHAVANIS, stated that he saw the Andartes cross into Bulgaria after the fight of LIPA (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14a, page 3).

The witness ALEXANDROS NIKOLAIDES, when asked "Where did the Andartes who fought in that encounter go after the fight", replied:

"They entered Bulgaria...I saw them with my own eyes...I saw the others entering Bulgarian territory and they disappeared among the pine trees when the Greeks started to fire". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 23).

#### Discrepancies

The witness RACHMANIDES, said that 135 Greek partisans having crossed the frontier, assembled in a Bulgarian frontier post where they received some bread and marmalade (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 32).

The witness ARVANITIDES stated:

"We arrived first to the Bulgarian frontier post No. 18, where we remained one hour. At that time, 135 partisans assembled there. After that they left for another destination". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 13).

The witness YIANTISOS said that when they crossed the frontier, they remained in a wood in a ravine for some hours, between 3:00 o'clock and darkness. When 130 men assembled there, they went to the frontier post, where they remained two hours (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, pages 16-17).

/(e) Evidence

- (e) Evidence that Bulgarian troops and civilians were aware that Greek guerillas were fighting on Bulgarian soil

The witness ALEXANDROS NIKOLAIDES deposed before the Subsidiary Group that during the time the Greek guerillas occupied positions in Bulgarian territory on and near MOUNT LIPA, 3 Bulgarians went to "our chiefs SKORDOMPEGIS and LAMEROS and FOTINOS" and "stayed there for half an hour".

"They made no observations to us; they talked with our chiefs and then went away". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 23).

The witness CHRISTOS YIANISOS said:

"...The third day when we arrived at the summit we met two Bulgarian soldiers and they remained there for half an hour."  
(S/AC.4/SG/PV/16, page 22).

In his demonstration on MOUNT LIPA to the Subsidiary Group, the Greek Captain LIOUSSAS confirmed his written testimony (S/AC.4/SG/5, page 7) that:

"It was observed by recce patrols that the bandits had put up a DREDA machine gun at a spot 100 metres within the Bulgarian territory. Before the occupation of the Height E (443-230), one could see bandits entering and coming out of the Bulgarian territory.

"At 1000 hours of 17 April, one Bulgar Gend. Corporal with 2 Gendarmes and 5 armed Bulgar civilians called at the Coy HQ, situated close to the frontier line. Source showed to the Corporal the positions of the Greek troops, informed him of the awkward position of the bandits..."

This evidence was confirmed by the written testimony of Cadet KARALAZOS (S/AC.4/SG/5, page 9).

In the Greek documentation, Major SYRMOPOULOS is quoted as having testified as follows:

/ "...though



"...though we showed to the (Bulgarian) patrol on the spot machine gun positions of the bandits lying inside the Bulgarian territory, they made no complaints". (S/AC.4/SG/5, page 17).

(f) Evidence that there is a camp at Berkovitsa in Bulgaria for the guerillas.

The witness APOSTOLOS ARVANITIDES, stated that these guerillas, after crossing into Bulgaria, went to BERKOVITSA, where there is a camp for about 400 guerillas. They were given three meals a day "exactly as they were given in the army". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 6). There were in this camp buildings like barracks surrounded by barbed wire. With them were a group of 10 Bulgarian soldiers and 1 officer who acted as guards.

The witness PETROS RACHMANIDES, testified to the same effect (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, pages 28-30).

The witness CHRISTOS YIANTISOS testified to the same effect. He stated that "At Berkovitsa there were Gendarmes and their chief was an officer". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 3).

In answer to a question "Were there also other refugees, not bands, but ordinary refugees in BERKOVITSA, and women and children together with Andartes?", he said, "No, there were only Greek Andartes..". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 12).

Discrepancies

The witness APOSTOLOS ARVANITIDES stated:

"I imagine there must be about 400 (at the camp of BERKOVITSA)". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 6).

The witness PETROS RACHMANIDES said that there were "400 more or less" at the camp. (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 33). In their written depositions both these witnesses gave 500 as the number.

(g) Evidence that wounded guerillas are hospitalized at Berkovitsa

The witness APOSTOLOS ARVANITIDES said that there was a hospital  
/at BERKOVITSA

at BERKOVITSA which was a separate building, but it was adjoining the rest of the barracks. About 30 people were in this hospital (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, pages 26-27).

The witness PETROS RACHMANIDES said that he recognized two wounded people in this hospital, namely TSOLIAS and TSAILOYANNIS (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, pages 28-30).

The witness CHRISTOS YIANTISOS testified to the same effect. He stated that in this hospital of about 30 persons he knew personally three people - BRENDIKAS, ARCHONTIS and BARBAS (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 2).

(h) Evidence that guerilla bands returned to Greece from Bulgaria

The witness APOSTOLOS ARVANITIDES stated that after staying in BERKOVITSA for about 10 days, a first group of 50 people went in two cars to the frontier. The drivers were Bulgarians and they had a Bulgarian guard who went up to the frontier. Before reaching the frontier they left the cars. They received arms at the border (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, pages 6-9).

The witness PETROS RACHMANIDES said:

"A first group of 50 persons amongst which was ARVANITIDES left BERKOVITSA. Then a second group in which I was went on. They told us we had to be prepared to go into Greece". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 33).

When asked "Were you obliged to go or did you go of your own accord", the witness replied:

"None of us knew where they were to go. They told us to go and we went". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 34).

The witness CHRISTOS YIANTISOS stated that he went with the third expedition from BERKOVITSA to Greece. They travelled by car. He said that he was obliged to go (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 4).

(i) Evidence that food, arms and ammunition were supplied from Bulgaria

The witness APOSTOLOS ARVANITIDES said that on their return from

/BERKOVITSA

BERKOVITSA to Greece they were given arms at the frontier, and after they had crossed into Greek territory they hid in a small ravine and bread was brought to him from Bulgaria. When asked how he got this the witness stated:

"It was a military type of bread. It was the same kind we received at BERKOVITSA". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 22).

The witness PETROS RACIMANIDES stated that they were given arms on their return from BERKOVITSA to Greece. When asked "When returning to Greece were they given arms in Bulgarian or Greek territory", the witness replied:

"The distribution took place in Bulgarian territory. We then walked for half an hour and entered Greek territory".

(S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, pages 39-40).

The witness CHRISTOS YIANTSCOS testified to the same effect. When asked "Did he receive the arms in Greek or Bulgarian territory", the witness replied:

"It was night and I could not see if we were in Greece or Bulgarian territory, but I had the impression that we entered Greek territory only after half an hour". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 5).

The witness PANAGIOTIS XANTHOPOULOS stated that on 28 April 1947, his band arrived in the region of KOULA near DAMASKINON, close to the Greco-Bulgarian border. There, the supply officer distributed food-stuff. The witness received a quarter of a loaf of bread and 17 Bulgarian cigarettes. He believed that the bread came from Bulgaria because:

"it was of the same quality as the bread from Bulgaria. It was like our black bread, but a little whiter". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14a, page 12).

"The cigarettes had six letters in Bulgarian" (Ibid, page 15).

/The band

The band was also supplied with ammunition. The witness thought that this came from Bulgaria because VLAKOPOULOS, in charge of supplies, used to sleep during the day and at night crossed into Bulgaria to receive the bread and the ammunition (Ibid).

The witness FOTIOS FOTIADIS when giving evidence in connection with the KAPNOTOPOS incident, stated that in his own band the arms were distributed by the chief, and that these arms came from Bulgaria:

"I know that they came from Bulgaria because they were new arms. When we came here at the beginning, we had no weapons at all, and then we came to this man and he gave us new arms, and I know that they were not arms that had been hidden. If they had been hidden in the earth, they would have been stained". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/10, page 25).

Discrepancies

The witness APOSTOLOS ARVANITIDES stated that he did not know whether it was on Greek or Bulgarian soil that arms were given to them when they returned from Bulgaria to Greece:

"I cannot tell you if it was exactly on Greek or on Bulgarian soil, but it was at the border..." (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, page 7).

The witness PETROS RACHMANIDES stated that the distribution of arms took place in Bulgarian territory (S/AC.4/SG/PV/13, pages 38-40).

The witness CHRISTOS YIANISOS was not sure whether the arms were distributed in Greece or in Bulgaria:

"but I have the impression that we entered into Greek territory only after half an hour". (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, page 5).

(j) Evidence that Greek soldiers fought on Bulgarian territory

In the documentation submitted by the Greek Liaison Representative, the Bulgarian Captain YIACOF ZIFKOF is stated to have said:

"...on the contrary we observed movements on armed Greek soldiers inside the Bulgarian territory, but we did not fire at them though

/we had

we had the right to do so..." (S/AC.4/SG/5).

During a demonstration of the incident on MOUNT LIPA, the Greek Captain IOANNIS LIOUSSAS pointed out the position of a guerilla machine gun emplacement where he had killed two guerillas and captured a third. The captured guerilla ALEXANDROS NIKOLAIDES in his oral evidence before the Sub-Commission confirmed this position. (S/AC.4/SG/PV/14, pages 25-30). This position, according to Greek officials, was on the frontier line but according to the Bulgarian frontier guards was inside Bulgarian territory (see also page 17).

#### Refutation

In the documentation submitted by the Greek Liaison Representative, describing the meeting between the Greek Major SYRMOPOULOS and the Bulgarian Captain ZEFKOV, Major SYRMOPOULOS is stated to have said:

"As for the movement of Greek soldiers into the Bulgarian territory, the contrary has been ascertained by the Bulgarian patrol we contacted in the morning on 18 April 1947, on a portion of the frontier line, lying between the Greek and Bulgarian summer frontier posts situated at SPANOVITSA..." (S/AC.4/SG/5, page 17).

#### (k) Evidence that Greek soldiers fired from Greek territory at guerillas on Bulgarian soil

In the documentation submitted by the Greek Liaison Representative, the Greek Major SYRMOPOULOS stated:

"...I, myself...observed...200 metres north of the frontier line inside the Bulgarian territory, a column of bandits moving against us in a threatening way, and firing at Greek troops stationed inside Greek territory...Own troops fired back, and I clearly observed a bandit falling dead and another one being wounded..." (Ibid).

#### B. BULGARIAN REFUTATION

For reasons already reported, the Subsidiary Group heard no direct Bulgarian refutation (S/AC.4/SG/35/Rev.1). One indirect refutation has

/already been

already been mentioned on page 18."

C. REASONS FOR NOT COMPLETING IN BULGARIA INVESTIGATION OF GREEK CASE

The reasons why the Subsidiary Group did not complete in Bulgaria its investigation of the Greek case have already been reported in document S/AC.4/SG/35/Rev.1.

IV. RESERVATIONS

The following delegations have made reservations concerning this report:

POLAND  
UNITED KINGDOM  
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS  
CHAIRMAN (FRANCE)

These reservations are contained in Appendix A of this report.

APPENDIX A  
RESERVATIONS OF DELEGATIONS

1. Reservations of the Delegation of Poland

The Delegate for Poland protested against the decision of the majority of the Subsidiary Group not to include his reservations in the body of the report. (S/AC.4/SG/SR/FV/37, p. 5)

2. Reservations of the Delegation of the United Kingdom

With reference to Part III, A (2), Section (c) and (j), of the report, the Delegation of the United Kingdom holds the opinion that the machine gun emplacement in question was in the form of a rough circle, the diameter of which was the line of demarcation of the frontier.

3. Reservations of the Delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

"Yesterday, the Soviet Delegation has expressed his opinion. The inclusion of the reservation of any delegation in the report on the work of the Subsidiary Group is not a question within the competence of the Subsidiary Group, and the right for reservation is the inalienable right of any delegation. I have illustrated this point of view by practical examples from the practice of a body of the United Nations, i.e., the Main Commission. I have read quotations from the report of the Main Commission which showed that reservations made by various delegations have been included. Nevertheless the Subsidiary Group has decided to settle the matter by a vote and has taken a decision not to include the reservations in the body of the report of this Group. I consider this an infraction of the principle of the United Nations. I request the Chairman to mention my statement in the report and to make reference to the minutes of this meeting. The Soviet Delegation reserves all rights as far as these reservations are concerned". (S/AC.4/SG/SR/FV/37, p. 5)

4. Statement of Chairman (Delegate for France) (Made as Chairman after above statement of USSR Delegate)

"The Chairman would like to give an answer to the Soviet Union Delegate's statement and wishes this answer to be taken down verbatim. The Chair round

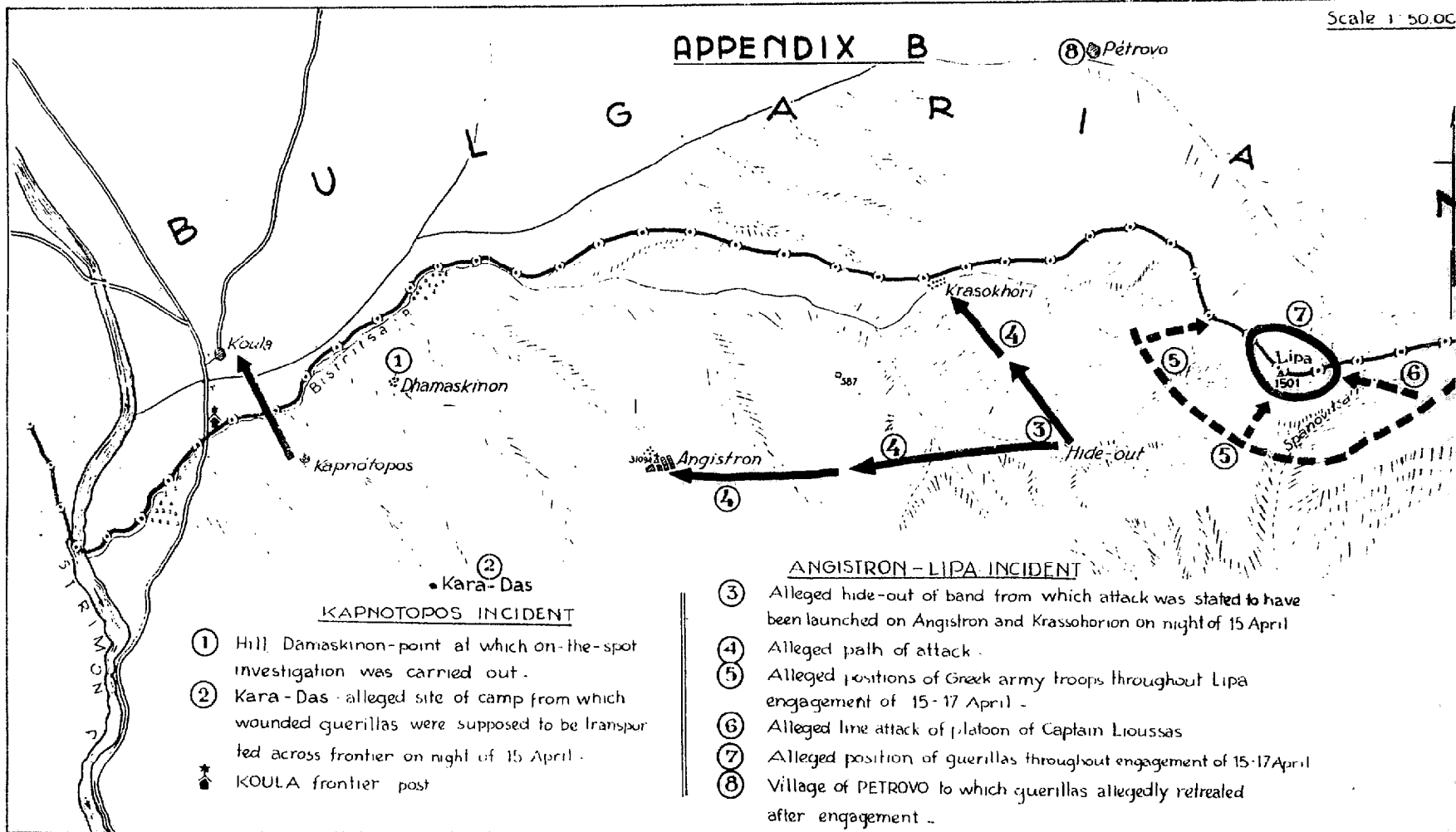
/itself

itself yesterday in the following situation: One Delegate held that the question of the inclusion of reservations in the report was foreseen by the rules of procedure and was not to be submitted to the approval of the Subsidiary Group. If that had been the opinion of all delegations, the discussion on the matter would not have taken place and the insertion would have been made. Nevertheless, several delegations expressed a precisely opposite point of view. The Chair in its spirit of impartiality could not any more force the representatives of the majority to accept the point of view of the minority than it could disregard the point of view of the latter. Therefore, the Chair had found itself under the absolute obligation to submit this question to an examination by the Subsidiary Group and has been forced to have a consultation on this matter. The Chair would like to add that the Delegate for France had tried to achieve agreement and has made a proposal which was capable of conciliating the points of view of different delegates and satisfy the delegations concerned, that is, the Delegations of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Poland. The latter have refused to consider this proposal. The question having now reached a dead end, I would like to welcome suggestions". (S/AC.4/SG/ER/FV/37, p. 6).



## APPENDIX B

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APPENDIX C

VERBATIM STATEMENT MADE BY GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE AT THE  
FORTY-SECOND MEETING HELD AT SALONIKA ON 2 JULY 1947

M. R. KAMBALOURIS: I would like to thank you in the name of my Government for having sought my opinion for the second time. As far as the Greek Liaison Representative's observations on the report on Kapnotopos and Anglistron-Lipa incidents are concerned, I have submitted all observations directly related to the report in my letter of July 1st to the Subsidiary Group. I did this as soon as possible in order to facilitate the work of the Subsidiary Group because I know that any loss of time is prejudicial to its work.

May I state rapidly the conditions in which the investigation has been brought about. The Greek Government has done all that was possible to facilitate the work of the Subsidiary Group in connection with those incidents, and has spared no effort and sacrifice for this purpose. You know the difficulties we are now facing on matters connected with transportation, housing and any journey to the border. The enquiry which has been made by the Subsidiary Group and which has been based upon well-studied observations on the spot, leaves no doubt on the elements of this case and on the material determination of facts which is so important for the ascertaining of the truth in such a matter. The Subsidiary Group has found itself confronted with difficulties which originated in the attitude of other governments which, nevertheless, had been called upon to co-operate with this body. These difficulties have led to supplementary delays. The dilatory tactics adopted by these governments and which have concentrated in the refusal to co-operate, have reinforced our charges which would have been proved otherwise by the hearing of the witnesses and all the material evidence submitted to your group by the Greek Government. I should like to mention that the Bulgarian Government has given no answer to your request concerning the visit to Berkovitsa; no authority was given for the entry into Bulgarian territory of the Greek witnesses, entry which was very important and which would have permitted them to identify the terrain and the places where they had been housed and fed and otherwise

helped and then brought back to the frontier so as to re-enter Greece and help the armed bands. In general the Subsidiary Group did not have the necessary access to check this terrain which is an unusual confusion in the investigation of this Bulgarian case. Thus, the Subsidiary Group has found itself confronted by material impossibilities although it had been forced at an earlier stage to give all necessary delays to the Bulgarian Government so as to enable it to submit its case in all liberty.

I have had already the occasion to state, on May 27, that my Government considers it as a very important and urgent matter that the report on the aforesaid incidents which have been submitted to your attention be sent as soon as possible. The Security Council is about to cast a judgment on the Greek case. Therefore, although I realize your difficulties, I appeal to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the honourable members of the Subsidiary Group kindly to make a supplementary effort to submit as soon as possible the report on Kapnotepos and Angistrion-Lipa incidents to the Security Council through the channel of the Balkans Commission. This report does not include any conclusion. Myself, in the observations which I had the honour to submit to you, have not mentioned any conclusions in order to be in agreement with the method of work of the Subsidiary Group and with its decisions. Nevertheless, my government holds that conclusions are necessary. They would enable the Subsidiary Group to submit to the judges a clear image of the case. Well informed as these judges may be, they are far away, they do not lead our life, they are not confronted with the same conditions, the same requests as you are every day. Consequently, such conclusions would be a precious contribution for their study of the case. Therefore, my Government reserves its right to submit such conclusions either here to the Subsidiary Group - if it considers it useful to add any to its report - or to the superior body called upon to cast a judgment on the matter.

