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INTERIM REPORT
OF THE
UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON THE BALKANS

ADOPTED BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON 31 DECEMBER 1947

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Letter, dated 2 January 1948, from the Chairman of the United Nations
Special Committee on the Balkans, to the Secretary-General of the
United Nations

Salonika, 2 January 1948.

I have the honour to enclose the first interim report of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans. This report was unanimously adopted up to Article 14 and the first paragraph of Article 15. The second paragraph of Article 15 was adopted by 7 votes in favour and 2 against.

This report includes the following documents:

(for the list of documents, see Table of Contents)

In forwarding you this report the Committee requests you to transmit it to Members of the Organization, in accordance with paragraph 11 of the General Assembly's resolution of 21 October 1947.

(signed) Abdur Rahim Khan
Chairman of the United Nations
Special Committee on the Balke

II

INTERIM REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BALKANS

(Adopted by the Committee on 31 December 1947)

1. The Special Committee considers the close of the year 1947 a suitable time at which to convey to the Secretary-General, for transmission to the Members of the United Nations Organization, pursuant to paragraph 11 of the resolution of the General Assembly of 21 October 1947, a summary account of its activities and progress so far. At this early stage of the Committee's work, any account of its activities must necessarily be largely a recapitulation of the steps which it has taken to plan and initiate its work so that it can most effectively discharge the obligations imposed on it by the General Assembly and keep the developing situation under continuous and close consideration.
2. The Committee held its first meeting at Paris on 21 November 1947, within the time specified by the above-mentioned resolution, in the absence of the delegates of Brazil, Pakistan, Poland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and subsequent meetings at Athens, where the delegate of Brazil joined the Committee, from 25 November 1947, at which rules of procedure were adopted. The Committee has met continuously at Salonika, its principal headquarters, since 1 December 1947. The delegate of Pakistan joined the Committee at Salonika on 9 December 1947.
3. On 27 November 1947, the Committee passed a resolution requesting the Secretary-General of the United Nations to inform the Governments of Poland and the Soviet Union that the Committee had taken note of the provisions of paragraph 9 of the resolution of the General Assembly stating that seats were held open for Poland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and that the Committee expressed the hope that the Governments of those countries would see fit to participate in the work of the Committee by appointing representatives in the near future (Annex 1).
4. On the same day the Committee resolved to seek from the Secretary-General the text of any replies received from the Governments of Albania, Bulgaria, Greece and Yugoslavia in response to communications addressed to them by the Secretary-General in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 14 of the General Assembly resolution (Annex 2).
5. No reply has yet been received in respect of the first resolution. Concerning the second resolution, the Secretary-General has informed the Committee that the Yugoslav representative has informed him that the Government of Yugoslavia would not extend any co-operation to the Committee (Annexes 3 and 4). No communication has been received regarding the intentions of the Governments of Albania and Bulgaria.

/6. The Government

6. The Government of Greece has assured the Special Committee of its desire and readiness to co-operate fully with the Committee's work and it has been in constant and close touch with the Committee through its duly accredited Liaison Officers. At their first official contact with the Special Committee the Greek Liaison Officers presented a statement declaring the view of the Government of Greece that the existing situation called imperatively for the cessation of illicit frontier traffic, and also setting forth its position concerning its diplomatic relations with the Governments of Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia (Annex 5).

7. The Committee considered that its work of acquiring first hand information on the elements of the situation facing it fell into two parts, namely, continuous observation of the general circumstances prevailing in the frontier areas, where it would be obviously impossible for the members of the Committee themselves to spend the required amount of time, and consultations with the appropriate governments supplemented by a study of documentary material of a varied character with a view to assisting the four governments concerned, pursuant to paragraph 6 (1) of the resolution of the General Assembly. Hence the Committee decided by its resolution of 27 November 1947 (Annex 6) to establish observation groups to observe and report continuously to the Committee to what extent good neighbourly relations exist on the relevant frontier areas, and also, by its resolution of 10 December 1947 (Annexes 7 and 8) to organize its study and programme of work with respect to the other matters dealt with by the recommendations of the General Assembly, by the establishment of three sub-committees responsible broadly for general observation; political problems, and refugee and minority questions respectively. These sub-committees comprise the following delegates:

1. France, Netherlands, United States of America.
2. Australia, China, Mexico.
3. Brazil, United Kingdom, Pakistan.

In order to deal with budgetary matters a budgetary sub-committee, comprising the delegates of China, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom was appointed on 23 December 1947 (Annex 9).

8. General and Frontier Observation. A technical study has been made of the requirements and equipment necessary for the establishment of seven groups (one mobile group to be held in reserve) which it is desired to set up on the southern side of the Greek frontier in the first instance (Annex 10), this being the full extent of the territory so far accessible to the Committee, and a request has been made to the Secretary-General for funds from the United Nations sufficient to enable this programme to be carried out (Annexes 11 and 12)

/This request

This request was made in view of the high importance attached by the Committee to the preservation of the widest possible international character of the observation groups. The Secretary-General has replied (Annexes 13 and 14) that the funds provided by the special budget of the Committee voted by the General Assembly cannot be exceeded at present, but that he would be prepared to examine and put before the Advisory Committee moderate adjustments suggested at a later time for such items as interpreters, precis writers, local transportation and similar expenses. The Committee's Budgetary Sub-Committee is at present examining the position in the light of this information. Journeys have been made for general reconnaissance purposes, and also to examine situations in frontier areas brought to the attention of the Committee by the Greek authorities (Annex 15). Documentary material supporting Greek allegations of assistance from the northern countries is also being examined (Annexes 16 to 28), and also communications addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations by the Bulgarian authorities containing charges against the Government of Greece (Annexes 29 and 30).

9. Political Questions. The Committee is following with the utmost anxiety recent stages in the development of the political situation in the area dealt with by the recommendations of the General Assembly.

10. In the absence of direct communication with the governments concerned other than the Government of Greece, the Committee has taken note of public reports and statements and has noted as relevant the following indications of the attitude of the four governments concerned to the recommendations of the General Assembly:

(a) Albania: The joint communique issued on the occasion of the signing of the Albanian-Bulgarian Treaty of Friendship of 16 December 1947 (Annex A).

(b) Bulgaria: In addition to the above, the joint communique issued on the occasion of the signing of the Bulgarian-Yugoslav Treaty of Alliance on 27 November 1947 (Annex A).

(c) Greece: The official Greek statement, referred to above (see paragraph 6) (which has so far been satisfactorily carried into effect), of willingness to co-operate with the Committee. The purport of a memorandum of the Greek Liaison representative (of 19 December 1947) (Annex 31) is to show that the relations between Greece and her three northern neighbours have continued to deteriorate, as substantiated by the following facts:

(1) No peace treaty could be concluded by Greece with Albania, and interference in Greek affairs and direct and active participation in guerilla operations on Greek territory continues on the part of the Albanian Government.

/(2) Notwithstanding

(2) Notwithstanding conclusion of the Peace Treaty with Bulgaria on 10 February 1947, ratified on 19 November 1947, the Greek efforts to re-establish diplomatic relations met with:

- (i) A demand by the Bulgarian Government that Greek military liaison officers be recalled;
- (ii) Wholesale deportation of Greek subjects;
- (iii) The official statement by the Bulgarian Prime Minister of 16 December 1947 on occasion of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship between Albania and Bulgaria.

(3) Relations with Yugoslavia have continued to deteriorate, as shown by various Yugoslav official statements in the latter part of 1947.

(d) Yugoslavia: With reference to the signing of the Bulgarian-Yugoslav Treaty of Alliance of 27 November 1947, the joint communique referred to above, the statement of Marshal Tito, the statement of 25 November made by the Yugoslav Foreign Minister and the statement of a spokesman of the Yugoslav Foreign Office made on 26 November 1947 (Annex A).

11. Similarly, among the new factors in relations between Greece on the one hand and Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia on the other, which have a bearing on the recommendations of the General Assembly, the following have been noted:

(a) Albanian-Greek relations. A statement in the joint communique issued on the occasion of the signing of the Albanian-Bulgarian Treaty of 16 December 1947 describing Greece today as "not an independent and sovereign country", with the result that assumption of diplomatic relations by those countries with Greece is impossible at present, and a further statement on the same occasion attributed to Enver Hoxha (Annex B).

(b) Bulgarian-Greek relations.

(i) Statement by Mr. Dimitrov on the occasion of the signing of the Albanian-Bulgarian Treaty of Friendship of 16 December 1947 (Annex B).

(ii) The expulsion of the Greek Liaison Officers from Sofia within a few days after ratification on 19 November 1947 of the Bulgarian Peace Treaty.

(iii) The two demarches made apparently without success late in November and in the early days of December 1947 by the British Minister at Sofia at the request of the Government of Greece with a view to the establishment of normal diplomatic relations between Bulgaria and Greece.

12. The most important recent political event is undoubtedly the announcement on 24 December 1947 of the formation of a "Provisional Democratic Greek Government" headed by Markos (Annexes 32, 33 and 34), which followed an announcement on 14 December 1947, attributed to M. Zachariades, head of the Greek Communist Party, to the effect that the formation of a "free government" was a matter of days (Annex 35). The possibility of the establishment of such a "government" and its effect had already been receiving the attention of the Political Sub-Committee.
13. Refugee and Minority Questions. A great deal of preparatory work has been completed and the Committee has asked the Greek authorities to supply some of the detailed information which it has found necessary at this juncture (Annex 36).
14. General Questions. It is appropriate to point out, especially at this early stage, that the work of the Committee would be more effective if it were completed by the presence of delegations from Poland and the Soviet Union as the General Assembly contemplated, and if the Committee had the advantage of the co-operation which the Governments of Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia have either refused or have not yet made available.
15. The Committee is so far unable to report any evidence of bi-lateral compliance with any of the recommendations of the General Assembly. Following the announcement of the establishment of the "Provisional Democratic Greek Government", it is closely considering the results which may flow from any act of association with that "Government" on the part of any of the governments to whom the recommendations of the General Assembly are addressed. (See annex containing text of resolution of delegation of Brazil adopted unanimously at a public meeting of the Committee on 29 December 1947) (Annex 37).

Bearing in mind that its functions with respect to those recommendations are to observe the compliance of the four governments concerned therewith, and to be available to assist them to that end, the Committee has felt bound to consider now how far such association may make their implementation impossible, and, consequently, whether this might not result in developments which would impel it to recommend the convocation of a special session of the General Assembly pursuant to paragraph 8 of the resolution of the Assembly

(signed) Abdur Rahim Khan
ABDUR RAHIM KHAN
Chairman of the Special Committee
31 December 1947

III

ANNEX A

TO THE INTERIM REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BALKANS

1. Statement contained in the joint communique issued on the occasion of the signing of the Albanian-Bulgarian Treaty, 16 December 1947:

Report
Paragraph 10(a)

On the question of the United Nations Balkan Committee:

"The two delegations consider that it was created in violation of the Statute of the United Nations and in violation of the state sovereignty of the Balkan nations and that therefore the two governments cannot admit it to their territory."

2. Statement contained in the joint communique issued on the occasion of the signing of the Bulgarian-Yugoslav Treaty, 27 November 1947:

Report
Paragraph 10(b)

"On the question of the so-called Balkan Commission of the United Nations, the two delegations unanimously consider that it is set up in violation of the Statute of the United Nations and of the principle of unanimity among the five great powers and in violation of the state sovereignty of the Balkan countries and that is why they cannot give it any co-operation and they cannot admit it to their territory."

3. Statement to the press by Marshal Tito on the occasion of the signing of the Bulgarian-Yugoslav Treaty, 27 November 1947:

Report
Paragraph 10(d)
(2nd Reference)

"In the General Assembly of the United Nations we did not recognize this Committee. We do not recognize it now and we will not permit it to enter our territory. The Committee not only has no legal existence but we consider that it represents a threat to the peace of the Balkans and that furthermore its existence facilitates the plans of the monarcho-fascist Greek Government for various provocations against Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania."

Report
Paragraph 10(d)
(3rd Reference)

4. Statement to the press by Mr. Stanoje Simic, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia, 25 November 1947: Memorandum of the Greek Liaison representative dated 19 December 1947, Appendix III.

/5. Statement

Report

Paragraph 10(d)
(4th Reference)

5. Statement to the press by Mr. Echref Badnievitch, Minister Plenipotentiary and representative of the Yugoslav Foreign Office, 26 November 1947: Memorandum of the Greek Liaison representative dated 19 December 1947, Appendix I.

ANNEX B

TO THE INTERIM REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BALKANS

Report
Paragraph 11(a)
(1st reference)

1. Statement contained in the joint communique issued on the occasion of the signing of the Albanian-Bulgarian Treaty, 16 December 1947:

"Regarding the re-establishment of diplomatic relations with Greece, the two governments consider that this is hindered by the fact that today Greece is not an independent and sovereign country . . . They express the sympathy of the Bulgarian and Albanian peoples toward the Greek people who are fighting for the liberty of their country."

Report
Paragraph 11(a)
(2nd reference)

2. Statement to the press by the Albanian Prime Minister, General Enver Hoxha, on the occasion of the signing of the Albanian-Bulgarian Treaty, 16 December 1947:

"Our peoples . . . wholeheartedly sympathize with the struggles of the heroic Greek people. We extend to them all our moral and political support because they are in every way worthy of it and because we are in favour of the liberation of the Greek people and the establishment of peace and democracy in the Balkans and in Europe."

Report
Paragraph 11(b)(i)

3. Statement to the press by the Bulgarian Prime Minister, M. Georgi Dimitrov, on the occasion of the signing of the Albanian-Bulgarian Treaty, 16 December 1947:

"We are sure that our friend Enver Hoxha will agree that together we hail our brothers the Greek people and their Democratic Army, whose victory constitutes an historical necessity for peace in the Balkans and for international peace in general."

ANNEX 1*

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON 27 NOVEMBER 1947.

The United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to inform the Governments of Poland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics that at its meeting held in Athens on 25 November the Committee took note of the provisions of paragraph 9 of the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations of 21 October 1947 stating that seats on the Committee would be held open for Poland and the Soviet Union, and that the Committee expressed the hope that the Governments of those countries would see fit to participate in the work of the Committee by appointing representatives in the near future.

* Document A/AC.16/1

ANNEX 2*

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON 27 NOVEMBER 1947

The Committee requests the Secretariat to ascertain from the Secretary-General of the United Nations the text of any replies received from the Governments of Albania, Bulgaria, Greece and Yugoslavia in response to communications addressed to them by the Secretary-General in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 14 of the resolution of 21 October 1947.

* Document A/AC.16/2

ANNEX 3*

CABLE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL REPORTING REPLIES OF GREECE
AND YUGOSLAVIA CONCERNING THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S
RESOLUTION OF 27 NOVEMBER 1947

"Am directed by Secretary-General to inform that pursuant to resolution of Special Committee adopted on 27 November 1947 Secretary-General communicated text of resolution to Governments of Albania, Bulgaria, Greece and Yugoslavia. To date replies have been received from representatives of Greece and Yugoslavia. By letter dated 1 December 1947 Greek representative informed that his Government ready co-operate with Special Committee to establishment of observation groups on Greek territory as provided in resolution. By letter dated 28 November 1947 Yugoslav representative informed that the Government of the Federal Peoples Republic of Yugoslavia has not altered the position which it frequently expressed in the First Committee and in plenary session with respect the Special Committee established by the resolution of the General Assembly of 21 October 1947. Consequently the Government of the Federal Peoples Republic of Yugoslavia has no intention of participating in any arrangement regarding the activities of the Special Committee.

* Document A/AC.16/12, 6 December 1947

ANNEX 4*

CABLE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL REPORTING THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT'S
REPLY OF 8 DECEMBER CONCERNING THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTION OF
27 NOVEMBER 1947

1. Letter dated 28 November received from Yugoslav representative should be treated as reply Secretary-General's letter 22 October transmitting General Assembly's resolution 21 October;
2. Secretary-General received another letter dated 8 December from Yugoslav representative replying Secretary-General's letter transmitting resolution Special Committee 27 November:

The Government of the F.P.R. of Yugoslavia considers the resolution of the formation of the Balkan Commission as a violation of the United Nations Charter as a violation of the principle of unanimity of the great powers and as an act infringing on the sovereignty of the Balkan peoples. Moreover, the Balkan Committee can represent a danger to peace by creating possibilities for further provocations of the Greek regime. Therefore, my Government will not extend any co-operation to the Commission or to its observation groups and will not permit entry into Yugoslav territory.

* Document A/AC.16/25, 16 December 1947.

ANNEX 5*

SPEECH DELIVERED BY HIS EXCELLENCY MR. ALEXANDER DALIETOS,
MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY, GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE, AT THE FIRST
PUBLIC MEETING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON THE BALKANS

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen:

Acting on behalf of my government and interpreting their feelings and thoughts, I should like, at this commencement of your work, to extend to you a warm welcome to Greece where you have been called to discharge an extremely important mission. Your presence here is of great moral significance as well as of inestimable practical value, for it constitutes the proof of the interest and the motion felt by world public opinion at the thought that the integrity and independence of a small courageous country are menaced, a country which was the first among the small nations to check and repel fascist aggression. Similarly, your presence signifies the will of the immense majority of the United Nations to seek positive solutions and to put an end to a situation, the gravity of which cannot escape anybody's notice. The Committee, which has just inaugurated its activities in Greece and which is the first concrete implementation of the resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations with regard to this grave problem, must find its position enhanced in importance, in prestige and in brilliance by the fact that such eminent persons as those gathered around this table were kind enough to agree to participate in it. Your experience, gentlemen, and your personal authority will permit you, I am sure, to devote yourselves entirely and with every possible chance of success to the objective pursuit of a solution which would conform to justice, and which, as such, would certainly serve the cause of peace.

But even though the Committee may be the expression of the spirit that animates the United Nations and even though you may feel yourselves strengthened in your task by world public opinion, it is not any the less true that you are in need above all of a great deal of good will on every side. You may be absolutely assured that insofar as my own country is concerned, you will have all its co-operation. It is hardly necessary, I think, for me to illustrate this assertion before you at any great length, since as you know, the Hellenic Government has never ceased since December 1946 to give evidence of all the good will that conditions required and has always done all in its power to make it possible for the United Nations and its organs to discharge their mission in this part of the world.

Which is then, gentlemen, the way to follow in order to begin, to pursue and to complete this important task? The way seems to be indicated by the decision itself of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

* Document A/AC.16/10, 2 December 1947.

The resolution of 21 October which was at first adopted by the Political Committee and later endorsed by the General Assembly by a very great majority is based on the final report of the Commission of Investigation which was established by the Security Council in January of this year. It may be said without any exaggeration that the Assembly endorsed almost to the letter the recommendations contained in the Commission's report, a report that had been drawn up after a scrupulous and conscientious on-the-spot investigation, and this fully justified the recourse of Greece to the United Nations in December 1946.

In fact, the General Assembly of the United Nations, after taking into consideration, in the preamble to the resolution, the assistance given to the guerrillas by the three northern neighbours of Greece, invites Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia to do nothing which might constitute an assistance to these guerrillas. It is clearly to be deduced from this text, therefore, that, the fact of the assistance having been admitted, what in the opinion of the drafter matters above everything else is the finding of the measure or measures that would put an end to this assistance. It follows that the principal aim toward which, in the spirit of the resolution, all efforts should bend to begin with consists in checking the evil, in stopping - and in stopping as soon as possible - the assistance given the guerrillas from abroad. It is only when this state of things, which is diametrically opposed to all the conventions of good neighbourliness and to the very conception of diplomatic relations among nations, has come to an end that the other paragraphs of the resolution could have a chance of being successfully applied. In the opinion of the Hellenic Government this procedure is the only rational one and the only one which may prepare and insure a future based on solid foundations, that is, one that would succeed in giving to the relations between Greece and her three northern neighbours the mark of normality and good neighbourliness. In the performance of this delicate and important mission you may count absolutely and unreservedly on the co-operation of the Greek Government.

I do not wish to tire you out with the history of this question which is of vital interest to Greece. However, I wish to be permitted to comment very briefly on the situation which you are called upon to tackle.

It has been proved in an unmistakable manner that the assistance rendered to the rebels on the part of the northern neighbours of Greece not only was given them before the Greek recourse to the United Nations but continued even while the Commission of Investigation was conducting its investigation and later when a Subsidiary Group was left in Greece in order to follow up the development of the situation. You will undoubtedly remember that this Subsidiary Group was charged with the task of verifying what was happening on both sides of the border and consequently had the right to enter the territories of the neighbouring countries

/You will

You will also remember that every time a request to enter one of the countries was made by the Subsidiary Group, it was flatly refused. I know I am not imparting any new information to you by saying this, but it is wise for us to recall just the same that during long months the Commission of Investigation at first, and the Subsidiary Group subsequently, have had ample opportunity to become aware and convinced of the guilt of Greece's northern neighbours. These countries have thus violated in respect to Greece the most elementary obligation of good neighbours. Irrefutable evidence has been presented to the Commission proving the moral and material assistance furnished to the guerrillas by our northern neighbours. The effects and consequences of this assistance from abroad are unfortunately only too evident. The situation, since the Commission of Investigation completed its report last June, has certainly deteriorated. The Greek Government which, as you know, did not dispose, especially until quite recently, and does not yet dispose at present, sufficient military forces, has always done its best to attend to what was most pressing at the moment by repelling the attacks of guerrillas who would come from across the border or who, having been driven back, would return replenished and re-equipped. It is not surprising that under such conditions Greece finds her flanks exposed to successive attacks on the part of adversaries who systematically exterminate the men at the frontier posts and who, whenever obliged to fight in retreat while pursued by the regular Greek Army, can easily cross the border, certain that they would not be obstructed by the frontier posts of the neighbouring countries. Such guerrillas are received and hospitalized in the neighbouring countries, and after replenishing themselves with arms, munition and food supplies, return in order to attack again and thus to cause growing anxiety among the population in the border areas. The obvious objective of the guerrillas is on the one hand to paralyze, morally and materially, every effort for the rehabilitation of the country and on the other hand to establish themselves by all means including forced conscription in a more or less permanent fashion in a certain area and to occupy one at least important city for the purpose of installing therein the provisional government whose formation was repeatedly proclaimed and whose establishment would give them the hope of international recognition. There is no point in trying to conceal the fact that the establishment of such a government would permit those abroad who support the guerrilla movement to recognize it and to transform the more or less camouflaged assistance which they have been profusely dispensing so far to open and unconcealed aid with all the consequences and international complications which such acts would be sure to entail.

The Greek Army which has for many months been fighting against this armed attack and which has succeeded in dislodging the guerrilla forces almost

/immediately

immediately every time that they installed themselves anywhere, has nevertheless decided sometime ago to withdraw its frontier posts and in general to effect a disposition of its forces further in the interior of the country so as to avoid unnecessary loss of human lives and better to ensure the defence of the territory. This measure which was absolutely necessary for reasons of security was likewise prompted by the sincere desire of the Hellenic Government to avoid any frontier incidents which might have been caused if the regular Greek troops were to advance too close to the border while pursuing guerrillas who were trying to find refuge in foreign territory. I wish to emphasize the fact that the Greek military forces have always been in a disadvantageous position because they have been under orders never to advance as far as the border line where incidents might have easily occurred. This withdrawal of the regular forces, justified though it was in many respects, has nevertheless resulted in villages and whole regions along the frontier being abandoned to destruction and desolation and left the guerrillas a greater freedom of action. The inhabitants uprooted from their homes in such regions, often with no time to take with them anything at all that might help them to subsist or even survive, flock into the cities. Their fields remain abandoned, while the cattle, abducted by the guerrillas, are herded together northwards. These refugees, who abandoned their villages because the latter are destroyed or who flee from the terror and the reprisals of the guerrillas, numbered only a few hundred persons some months ago. Today their number has risen to 350,000 persons. This, as you already realize, is a new problem which the Greek Government must tackle with extreme expeditiousness so as to provide these persons with the minimum sustenance and provisional lodgings. This is all the more urgent because the guerrillas, who apparently regard this mass exodus of urban and rural populations as conducive to their plans, hope to take advantage of the misery they have caused in order to create new difficulties of a social order to the Greek Government.

On the other hand, though the guerrilla forces have not been able so far to install themselves anywhere in an even slightly permanent fashion, they have nevertheless taken advantage of the difficulties of the authorities and of the military forces in order to organize themselves better and to continue to upset the entire administrative apparatus in the regions they overrun. What is most surprising, however, and what would confirm, if necessary the allegations repeatedly made by my government on the subject of the continuous and regular assistance accorded to the guerrillas from abroad, is the fact that in spite of the capture by the regular troops of a great number of guerrilla rifles and of arms of all sorts, the guerrilla forces manage every time to renew their equipment and especially their armament, which now includes, among other things, artillery

/and anti-aircraft

and anti-aircraft defence arms. Moreover, as the Greek Army have withdrawn their forces further to the south within Greek territory except along the principal routes to the boundaries (i.e. at CACAVIA, GHEVGHELI and KOULA), the guerrilla forces were able to install supply centers, winter quarters and military training camps in several mountainous regions, i.e. at BELES, KAIMAKTCHALAN and VITSI. Such emplacements have been selected for the purpose of permitting the guerrillas to render access of the regular troops to them extremely difficult, and also to maintain a route of easy withdrawal into the neighbouring countries, should the need arise. I must finally add that the withdrawal of the regular troops which, as I said before, leaves their sides exposed to guerrilla incursions allows the latter to risk raids against such towns as KONITSA, EDESSA, SIDIROCASTRON and COMOTINI which are often in a state of alert if not a state of siege that necessitates the taking of emergency measures.

The picture which I have pointed very briefly gives you only a faint idea of the situation in several border regions of Greece, a situation which is becoming increasingly critical every day and which may become even tragic. For several months, the regular army has been fighting the guerrilla forces, which operate mostly in the border areas, for there they have a certain freedom of movement, not only because of the configuration of the terrain, mostly mountainous, in these regions, but also because of the possibility of withdrawing into the territories of the neighbouring countries. There, they find the way to replenish their supplies and equipment, certain that they will not be disturbed by the Greek troops. They can thus keep up their armed attacks against the Greek Army for a long time.

This long-drawn-out struggle, which the Greek Army is carrying on with insufficient arms and equipment, has not failed to have distressing repercussions on the country as a whole because it is causing a feeling of growing anxiety among the people and is interfering with any serious attempt at reconstruction. It is, therefore, extremely pressing that this Committee, in which you were kind enough to participate, examine all the elements and all the aspects of the question so that it may put an end without delay to the troubled conditions which are caused by the insecure state of the northern frontiers of Greece. For, if this situation were to continue with all the economic and social disturbances which would inevitably follow, all the assistance which the United Nations has hastened to render to Greece, and all the aid specially granted by the United States of America and Great Britain would be rendered inefficacious, while the prestige of the United Nations would be seriously compromised. Greece, who has absolute confidence in the institution of the United Nations and who is convinced that an adequate and expeditious action would have positive results, appeals to your perspicacity,

/to your

to your objectivity and to the spirit of justice and equity by which you are prompted, and requests you to seek and find the solution of this problem which is of vital importance to my country.

I do not wish to end my statement which is but an extremely concise summary of my government's point of view without repeating that you will have all the co-operation of the Hellenic Government in the performance of your duties. As you already know, my government declared in New York that they are ready to accord to the Committee in the exercise of its functions on Greek territory, the right of entire freedom of movement and all facilities necessary for the accomplishment of its task. The Hellenic Government, while reserving the right to supply you, in the course of your work, with all the information that you may need and the facts and data which they may deem proper to submit to your estimation and judgment, will study carefully any recommendations which the Committee may decide to make for the purpose of facilitating and contributing to the success of its work. The Greek Government is firmly determined to regulate all its differences with its neighbours in the spirit of the Charter and of the Resolution of the Assembly, that is, by pacific ways and means, which, in fact, has always been the policy of all the governments of Greece. It is equally anxious to do all it can for the establishment of normal diplomatic relations between Greece and her three northern neighbours, but it has the right to demand of them to make a similar effort to this end and to display similar good will.

With Yugoslavia, Greece has maintained diplomatic relations for the last two years, and no one regrets more than the Hellenic Government the fact that these relations have not returned to the cordiality of former times. The Hellenic Government persists in believing and in hoping, however, that our two neighbouring and once allied countries, which have so often in the past fought side by side and which in the course of the last war have suffered terribly and put up a magnificent resistance against the same enemies, will be able to recreate in a spirit of mutual respect, that atmosphere devoid of mistrust which alone will permit them to take up again the road to creative co-operation.

As regards Bulgaria, who caused Greece to suffer three times within the space of thirty years and who in the course of the last war, by occupying a part of Greek territory, became the cause of terrible suffering, misery and destruction - for which she assumed the obligation of paying reparations even though only partially - the Hellenic Government has signed and ratified the peace treaty and has already taken the necessary steps for the purpose of re-establishing normal diplomatic relations with her. You will agree, I hope, that it has not taken the Hellenic Government long to conform as regards this point to the recommendations contained in the resolution of 21 October.

With Albania we wish also to re-establish normal relations as soon as

/possible.

possible. You know that no peace treaty has yet come to put an end to the state of war that has existed between Greece and Albania since 1940. We hope that it will not be long before the questions pending between the two countries are regulated and that relations of good neighbourliness are re-established with this country.

Your Committee, gentlemen, far from constituting a menace against anyone or any danger of incitement and trouble is, on the contrary, an instrument of peace at its best, and its presence as well as its activity aim only to bring back, to establish and to consolidate peace in the Balkans.

You have to continue the task started already by the International Commission of Inquiry and pursued by the Subsidiary Group of that Committee, who had established the fact of aid to the guerrillas, given by our northern neighbours, help which unfortunately has not stopped since that date, but goes on in a more and more menacing way for the integrity and independence of Greece.

You have an extremely important task before you, gentlemen; you are called upon to discharge a mission which has been entrusted to you by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Its prestige would certainly increase if you succeed in solving a problem on the solution of which depends the consolidation of peace in a part of the world. You have before you a problem of an essentially international character, a problem which is of vital interest to Greece but which at the same time is of very great interest to all the nations which cherish their independence and their freedom and which will see in the success of your mission a great step taken toward a better future for peace and international collaboration.

ANNEX 6*

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON 27 NOVEMBER 1947.

THE COMMITTEE,

Having carefully studied the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations of 21 October 1947,

CONSIDERS that in order to carry out efficiently the duty imposed on it by paragraph 6, sub-paragraph (1) of the said resolution, namely, to observe the compliance of the four governments mentioned with the recommendations of the General Assembly expressed therein, the Committee should maintain observation groups near and on both sides of the frontiers of Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia with Greece, and

DECIDES

1. Subject to the co-operation of the Governments of Albania, Bulgaria, Greece and Yugoslavia respectively being obtained, to maintain such observation groups near and on both sides of the above mentioned frontiers, such groups to be under the authority of the Committee and composed of personnel supplied by the nations represented on the Committee;
2. To instruct such groups to observe and to report continuously to the Committee to what extent good neighbourly relations exist on those frontiers; and
3. To request the Secretary-General to obtain the consent of the four governments mentioned to the establishment of such observation groups on their respective territories.

* Document A/AC.16/5.

ANNEX 7*

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AT ITS
THIRTEENTH MEETING ON 10 DECEMBER 1947, ESTABLISHING THREE
WORKING SUB-COMMITTEES

The Special Committee established by the General Assembly on 21 October 1947 has been directed to study problems of a most varied nature which may, in general, be divided into three categories:

- I. Those deriving from paragraph 6, sub-paragraph (1), of the Special Committee's terms of reference (document A/409), which directs the Committee to observe and examine to what extent the Governments concerned comply with the relevant recommendations. The implementation of this decision implies the necessity of being constantly informed of problems bearing upon frontier questions. Groups of observers will be established, who will discharge their duties by travelling from place to place, or remaining at permanent posts.
It is essential that constant liaison be maintained between the observers and UNSCOB.
- II. Political problems, namely those deriving from paragraph 6, sub-paragraph (1), as affected by paragraph 5, sub-paragraphs (1) and (2). UNSCOB thus has the duty of assisting in re-establishing as soon as possible normal diplomatic and good neighbourly relations and in concluding frontier conventions, etc. These problems, which are of a less urgent nature than those mentioned above, call for detailed and careful study.
- III. Problems arising out of the presence of refugees and the practicability of concluding agreements for the transfer of minorities.

These problems call for long term study.

The time has come to set up three sub-committees, each of them to be responsible for one of the categories of problems above-mentioned and to make early suggestions for a programme of assistance to each of the four governments concerned.

Each of these three sub-committees will be composed of three representatives. The other members of UNSCOB may participate at any time in the work of these sub-committees.

Each sub-committee will elect its Chairman and set to work immediately.

* Document A/AC.16/15/Rev.2

All sub-committees will from time to time prepare reports for discussion and approval by UNSCOB.

After approval these reports may, under paragraph 11 of the resolution, be the basis of interim reports to be forwarded to the Secretary-General for transmission to the Members of the United Nations prior to the next session of the Assembly.

ANNEX 8*

EXPLANATORY NOTES SUBMITTED BY THE
UNITED STATES DELEGATION

CONCERNING THE PROPOSED FUNCTIONS OF SUB-COMMITTEES

In order to assist the Special Committee in its study of the problems presented to it by the resolution of the General Assembly, dated 21 October 1947 it is proposed that several sub-committees be appointed. The function of the sub-committees should be restricted to a study, on the one hand, of conditions as they exist at the moment and, on the other hand, to such possible lines of action by the Special Committee in the event that future developments, which the sub-committee may be able to forecast, take a direction which would require prompt action by the Special Committee. In other words, while the sub-committee would always be conditioned by the facts as they existed, they would also be able to project their thinking far enough ahead to insure that the Special Committee is always prepared for eventualities.

With this end in view, it is proposed that three categories of problems be divided among three sub-committees, as follows:

1. Observation Groups.

It is suggested that the Special Committee appoint a Sub-Committee to assemble, install, and operate the Observation Groups created by the Special Committee's resolution of 27 November 1947. The function of the Sub-Committee would be largely administrative, but would be operational in the sense that it would occupy itself with all the problems concerning the maintenance on station of the Observation Groups. It is also proposed that this Sub-Committee should be the recipient of reports from the Observation Groups from their stations on the frontiers and be the action authority upon all such reports, subject to the following limitations:

- (a) Action by this Sub-Committee would be limited to matters of supply, organization, and details of operation, or, in other words, technical questions.
- (b) Decisions concerning the choice of location in which any Observation Group is to operate, or the conclusions to be drawn from their observations, would always be a matter of cognizance for the Special Committee as a whole.
- (c) It is intended by the above always to preserve for the Special Committee in its entirety decisions on all matters regarding the area of observation and reports of the Observation Groups, as well as the broad arrangements under which they are to operate.

* Document A/AC.16/17, 10 December 1947.

2. Political Problems.

Political problems are those which concern the Special Committee as a whole, and which are set out in detail in Paragraphs 5 and 6 of the General Assembly's resolution of 21 October 1947. It is intended under this heading to include a study by the Sub-Committee of possible contingencies which might arise, due to the action of other nations, which might affect not only the Committee's functions in the Balkan Area, but which might also entail the Special Committee's decision to call a special session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

3. Refugee and Minority Problems.

This Sub-Committee would concern itself with existing treaties, agreements, etc., among the four Balkan nations concerned. Drawing upon the historical background of problems of this sort, following World War I in particular, this Sub-Committee would be prepared to advise the Special Committee in advance of action appropriate to any situation in this regard which might arise.

4. General Consideration.

On the basis that Sub-Committees, as outlined above, can accelerate the preparation of information for the Special Committee as a whole, it appears that the time is now ripe to proceed along the lines above recommended.

The membership of these Sub-Committees should be determined by the Special Committee itself. However, it may be pertinent to remark that three such Sub-Committees could readily be completed by using the nine members of the full Special Committee, three on each. On the other hand, it is not desired to deny all delegations either membership or participation in such Sub-Committees. It would appear feasible to appoint three permanent members of each Sub-Committee, with additional membership or representation by delegates of other nations accredited to the Special Committee.

It is suggested each Sub-Committee would elect its own Chairman and arrange its work in an informal manner.

The above Sub-Committees, if approved, should from time to time prepare reports to the Special Committee either outlining events as they have transpired, or suggesting courses of action for the Special Committee to be followed should certain eventualities occur. The above reports might reasonably be incorporated in whatever interim reports the Special Committee desires to submit to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in accordance with Paragraph 11 of the basic terms of reference.

ANNEX 9*

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Held at the Mediterranean Hotel, Salonika,

Tuesday, 23 December 1947, at 4 p.m.

(Open)

Chairman: Colonel RAHIM (Pakistan)

Present: Mr. BALLARD (Australia)
Mr. DA CUNHA (Brazil)
Mr. SIH (China)
Mr. CHARVERIAT (France)
Mr. CASTILLO NAJERA (Mexico)
Mr. de BOOY (Netherlands)
Sir Horace SEYMOUR (United Kingdom)
Admiral KIRK (United States of America)

Liaison Representatives of the Greek Government:

Mr. DALIETOS
Mr. DROSSOS
Mr. TRANOS
Colonel ANTONIOU
Mr. DIMITROPOULOS
Mr. VITSAXIS

Secretariat: Mr. AGLION (Principal Secretary)

ADOPTION OF AGENDA.

The agenda was adopted without discussion.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN DESIGNATE

The name of the representative of the United States was drawn as chairman for the fourth period of rotation.

TELEGRAM FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL DATED 19 DECEMBER REGARDING BUDGETARY QUESTIONS (DOCUMENT A/AC.16/29).

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the telegram might be submitted to Sub-Committee 1 for examination and submission of proposals to the full Committee.

Mr. CHARVERIAT (France) considered that the matter was of general concern to the Special Committee and outside the scope of Sub-Committee 1.

* Document A/AC.16/SR.19

/Admiral KIRK

Admiral KIRK (United States of America), supported by Mr. Charveriat, proposed that the telegram be referred to the budgetary Sub-Committee for examination.

The proposal was adopted.

REPORT OF THE OBSERVATION GROUP SENT BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO THE REGION OF DELVINAKION ON 9 DECEMBER (DOCUMENT A/AC.16/26).

Mr. de BOOY (Netherlands) stated that the report had been examined in Sub-Committee I when several other members of the Committee were present to hear Colonel Vernier's verbal report on the visit. Members of the Committee had since had an opportunity to read the written report and he proposed that the latter now be filed and used for further study by Sub-Committee I as required, particularly with reference to the remarks contained therein concerning instructions to observation groups.

The proposal was adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS.

BUDGETARY SUB-COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN referred to the adoption of a proposal to establish a small budgetary sub-committee and moved that the representatives of China, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom should serve on it.

The proposal was adopted.

The meeting rose at 4.20 p.m.

ANNEX 10*

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE 2 OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON OBSERVATION GROUPS

The Sub-Committee, in preparing the attached table indicating the organization and equipment of the Observation Groups, has given careful consideration to the basic factors of "Expense" and "Numbers".

On the matter of "Expense", the Sub-Committee has felt that the charges are properly lodged against the United Nations' budget. In principle, this is believed sound, since the Special Committee was named to represent the General Assembly of the United Nations. It appears logical, therefore, that charges incurred by the Sub-Committee in the performance of its duties should be borne by the appointing authority. To this end, request for additional funds has been forwarded by the Principal Secretary. In the event the Secretary-General of the United Nations does not respond favourably to this request, then the Sub-Committee feels it will be necessary to accept certain equipment and personnel on a "loan basis".

It was originally intended to assemble twelve Observation Groups, six to be placed north of the frontiers and six south. However, as consent of the northern nations has not yet been received, it appears advisable to make plans for immediate station of groups south of the border. It was decided to have six such Groups on post, with one in reserve. The Reserve Group would be available for emergency observation work, and for relief of other Groups in rotation.

The following notes will serve to explain the table:

1. Seven (7) streamlined self-contained Groups have been provided.

Each group will consist of:

- 4 - Observers
 - 2 - Radio Operators
 - 1 - Interpreter
 - 1 - Precis Writer
 - 1 - Auto Mechanic
2. Each of the seven Groups will be equipped with:
 - 1 - Large motor car (command or weapons-carrier type)
 - 1 - Radio Jeep
 - 1 - Jeep
 - 1 - Jeep Trailer
 3. The seven Groups will be equipped with radio to communicate with a central radio station at Salonika. The type of radio equipment will be

* Document A/AC.16/7/Rev.1, 5 December 1947)

similar to the United States military type known as SCR 193 for jeeps and SCR 399 with power units for central radio station.

4. Administration of the Groups in the field will be from Headquarters at Salonika and there will be established:

3 - Administrative Officers

4 - Radio Operators

1 - Precise Writer

3 - Drivers

1 - Auto Mechanic

1 - Radio Repairman

(This Administrative Group is in addition to the Seventh or Reserve Group.)

5. Aircraft for servicing the Observation Groups and assisting in observing frontier conditions will consist of:

1 - C-47 cargo type

1 - C-45

1 - Helicopter

1 - L-5 (artillery observer type)

6. The crews of the airplane will be supplied on loan with their airplanes and will be self-supporting for food and lodging at Salonika.

7. Miscellaneous Equipment is self-explanatory. It is designed to make the Observation Groups independent in the field.

8. Observers should be paid by their respective government and given a per diem for maintenance. This practice was followed by the AMFOGE in March 1946 and experience showed it to be the most satisfactory method. Rations will be drawn from military establishments, and paid for by consumers on per diem basis.

9. Estimated Costs. Initial costs, on the basis that aircraft and motor vehicles and radio equipment will be supplied on a loan basis, will probably be less than \$10,000. Maintenance charges, other than for aircraft, will be on the order of \$2,000 per month. Salaries of 8 - Precise Writers and 7 - Interpreters will be on the order of \$6560 per month.

UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BALKANS

TABLE OF ORGANIZATION AND EQUIPMENT
FIELD OBSERVATION GROUPS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ITEM	Headquarters	One Group	Seven Groups	Unit Cost (Approx.)	Cost of Seven Groups	Aggregate Cost (Hqs. & Field Groups)	Aggregate	Remarks
GROUND PERSONNEL								
1 Observer	3	4	28				31	Furnished by Government
2 Radio Operator	4	2	14				18	"
3 Interpreter		1	7	\$1,140 per mo.	\$1,140	\$1,140	7	Furnished by United Nations
4 PreciS-writer	1	1	7	\$680 per mo.	\$4,760	\$5,440	8	"
5 Driver	3						3	Furnished by Government
6 Auto mechanic	4	1	7				11	"
7 Radio Repairman	1						1	"
AIR PERSONNEL								
8 Pilot	7						7	"
9 Navigator	1						1	"
10 Crew Chief	3						3	"
11 Radio Operator (flight)	2						2	"
12 Assistant Crew Chief	4						4	"
13 TOTAL PERSONNEL	33	9	63		\$5,900 per mo.	\$6,580 per mo.	96	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ITEM	Headquarters	One Group	Seven Groups	Unit Cost (approx.)	Cost of Seven Groups	Aggregate Cost Hdqs. and Field Groups	Aggregate	Remarks
AIRCRAFT								
14 Airplane, C-47 (cargo)	1			\$100000		\$100000	1	
15 " C-45	1			20000		20000	1	
16 " Helicopter	1			35000		35000	1	
17 " L-5	1			3000		3000	1	
MOTOR VEHICLES								
18 Command Car	2	1	7	2000	14000	18000	9	
19 Jeep (radio)	1	1	7	750	5250	6000	8	
20 Jeep	1	1	7	750	5250	6000	8	
21 Trailer, Jeep	1	1	7	150	900	1050	8	
22 Spare Parts						2000		
SIGNAL EQUIPMENT								
23 Radio, SCR 399	1			5000		5000	1	
24 (Power Unit PE-95)	(1)						(1)	Included in Item #23.
25 Radio, SCR 193	2	1	7	1000	7000	9000	9	
26 Repair Kit, Technician	1			200		200		
27 Spare Parts						250		
28 SUB-TOTAL (Items 14-27 incl.)						\$205520		
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT								
29 Officers Field Kit	11	9	63	100	6300	7400	74	See attached list of items
30 Gasoline Lantern	1	3	21	10	210	220	22	
31 Gasoline Stove		1	7	10	70	70	7	
32 Officers Mess Kit		1	7	50	350	350	7	20 men complete
33 Camera		1	7	50	350	350	7	
34 D.D.T.		30 lb	210 lb	.50 per lb	105	105	210 lb	
35 First Aid Kit		1	7	20	140	140	7	20 men complete
36 Water Purification Tablets	1000	1000	7000			12	8000	
37 U.N. Brassard	12	24	168	.50	84	85	170	
38 U.N. Flag	12	4	28	5	140	200	40	
39 SUB-TOTAL (Items 29-39 incl.)						\$8932		
TOTAL INITIAL COST OF EQUIPMENT						\$214432		

NOTES:

- (a) Arrangements will be made by the Secretariat for food to supplement local sources. All food will be paid for by the individuals who consume it.
- (b) All personnel furnished by governments (Column 9) will be paid by their respective governments.
- (c) Gasoline and oil will be drawn from local army stocks. Reimbursement will be by United Nations.
- (d) Maps will be procured from Greek, British and American military sources.
- (e) Signal Equipment - It is possible that two additional SCR-399 will be required to establish relay stations in YANNINA and KOMINTINI.

FIELD TEAM COSTS

SALARIES (United Nations Personnel only):

7 Interpreters at \$160 per month	\$1,140.00	\$13,680.00
8 Precis-writers at \$680 per month	<u>5,440.00</u>	<u>65,280.00</u>
Sub-total	6,580.00	78,960.00

GASOLINE AND OIL:

Gas: 25 vehicles at 100 gallons per vehicle per month (\$0.25 per gallon).	825.00	9,900.00
Oil: 25 vehicles at 10 gallons per vehicle per month (\$0.25 per gallon).	<u>62.50</u>	<u>750.00</u>
Sub-total	887.50	10,650.00

ANIMAL TRANSPORT:

	200.00	2,400.00
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AIR TRANSPORT:

50 hours per plane per month at \$200 per hour per C-47 at \$52 per hour per other aircraft		
TOTAL 4 AIRCRAFT (C-47, C-45, H.C., L-5)	17,500.00	210,000.00

MOTOR MAINTENANCE:

\$40 per vehicle per month		
25 vehicles	1,080.00	12,000.00

CAMERA SUPPLIES:

Film	70.00	840.00
Developing	<u>100.00</u>	<u>1,200.00</u>
Sub-total	170.00	2,040.00

TOTAL	\$26,337.50	\$316,050.00
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(NOTE: If all personnel of field teams other than United Nations personnel is given \$3.50 per day per man for basic rations, the following additional cost would occur:

Basic R. tions for 81 persons	\$8,505.00	\$102,060.00
		<u>/Personnel,</u>

Personnel, Characteristics

Observers:

- (a) Rugged
- (b) Energetic
- (c) Intelligent

All Personnel:

All personnel should be qualified in as many of the following languages as possible: (a) Albanian, (b) Bulgarian, (c) English, (d) French, (e) Greek, (f) Serbian. All teams will be made up with either French or English as a base language. This will necessitate all members of the team being fluent with the base language. It is therefore suggested that half of the personnel furnished for field teams by either an interested government or by the United Nations Secretariat be qualified in French and the other half be qualified in English. In addition, knowledge of at least one of the other languages mentioned above is desirable.

It is assumed that each field team within one of the interested countries will be competent to interrogate nationals of that country as a minimum. Interpreters for languages other than those spoken within a field team will be furnished as needed from a central pool in Salonika. All personnel will be male.

Uniform:

All personnel on duty with field teams will wear a distinct uniform. (It has been suggested that the blouse be of two contrasting colours for easy identification). Military uniform of any of the interested governments will NOT be worn.

Officers Field Kit:

- 1 - Field Glasses (Infantry)
- 1 - Canteen
- 1 - Compass
- 1 - Knife, field
- 1 - First aid Pouch
- 1 - Haversack
- 1 - Mosquito Net
- 1 - Sleeping Bag, Arctic
- 1 - Cot, folding
- 1 - Field Mess Kit (complete)
- 1 - Map Case

ANNEX 11*

CABLE DATED 5 DECEMBER 1947, FROM MR. KERNO, ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL,
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONCERNING
FUNDS FOR OBSERVATION GROUPS

In order to carry out its Mandate UNSCOB considers indispensable the setting up of Permanent Observation Groups. So as to safeguard United Nations character of groups Committee considers that acquisition or hire of material and their operating costs should be met by United Nations and that precis writers and interpreters should be furnished by the Secretariat. The Committee requests you to take the necessary steps in view of appropriating emergency funds in order to cover these expenditures approximately estimated at the rate of an extra 600,000 dollars per annum. Wire urgently your reply to enable Committee to consider other ways of carrying out its mission in the event of there being no possibility of appropriating in whole or in part expenditures mentioned above.

Personal comment of Mr. Kernno follows:

Financial consequences would be following: General Assembly in appropriating funds for UNSCOB based its decision on Working Methods in the Field of Original Main Commission and Subsidiary Group. UNSCOB in order to carry out its Mandate considers indispensable the setting up of at least seven Permanent Field Teams. Each team will consist of four observers, two radio operators, one interpreter, one precis writer, and one auto mechanic. Equipment four aircraft in total and for each team four cars. Am able to furnish within limit actual budget precis writers and interpreters but remaining expenses would have to be taken from Secretary-General's Emergency Fund. Sums probably involved estimated at:

1. Operating Expenses: Aircraft, Cars, Animals and Camera Supplies	\$237,000
2. Basic Food Rations \$3.50 per day per man	102,000
3. If Equipment not Furnished on Loan Basis but Purchased, Initial Cost Would be	<u>214,000</u>
TOTAL	\$553,000

I have pointed out to Committee very strongly that it would be difficult, if not impossible, for you to draw such considerable sums from

* Document A/AC.16/18

Emergency Fund especially at this early date. Nevertheless Committee, considering United Nations Character of Field Teams essential, urged me to send you this message and expects urgently your reply before turning to Governments for loan of personnel and equipment.

ANNEX 12*

CABLE, DATED 13 DECEMBER 1947, FROM MR. KERNO, ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS
CONCERNING FUNDS FOR OBSERVATION GROUPS

With reference to your cable (Document A/AC.16/19, Annex 13) Committee instructed me to state quote Committee has considered its contents but attributes such importance to principle involved that it feels bound to request its clarification, particularly on the points appearing below stop Committee stresses that budget of Committee approved by Assembly could not have foreseen all such expenditures which now constitute an emergency arising from consideration in loco of the indispensable methods and procedures for its work stop Committee would only deem necessary to acquire material which could not be hired stop Estimated costs calculated for one year but it is very likely such costs would only be necessary for a few months stop Your telegram indicates it is difficult but not impossible for you to guarantee appropriations stop Committee cannot conclude from your text whether your difficulties arise from lack of funds in general or at the present time and whether you have decided that an allocation of funds is impossible stop In all cases Committee requests you to state whether and if so when it could expect appropriations from the Emergency Fund and to what extent unquote personal comment follows stop I strongly insisted that your answer should be interpreted as meaning practical impossibility for you to qualify as unforeseen expenditure activity of Committee for which Assembly itself provided special budget but Committee decided by majority of six votes in favour and three abstentions to send you this new request for clarification end.

* Document A/AC.16/24

ANNEX 13*

REPLY, DATED 10 DECEMBER 1947, FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE
CABLE FROM MR. KERNO, CONCERNING FUNDS FOR
OBSERVATION GROUPS

Inform Commission that I gave most careful consideration to question raised your telegram of 5 December (Annex 11) and that I am in a difficult situation. Draw Commission's attention to fact that appropriations asked by Commission to cover cost operations seven Permanent Observation Groups more than double appropriations for UNSCOB approved by General Assembly in Budget of Organization for 1948.

It goes without saying that precis writers and interpreters of those groups should be furnished by Secretariat and am quite prepared undertake all measures to supply them, but it is difficult for me guarantee appropriations from Budget or Working Fund of United Nations to cover such expenditures as mentioned your telegram, and namely, for purchasing cars, planes, animals and camera supplies and for their maintenance and upkeep.

Members of Commission should be aware of fact that Budget of Commission approved by Assembly does not provide for appropriations for such expenditures. Earnestly Hope that Commission will consider and adopt such methods and procedures for its work as will not involve appropriations from Budget of United Nations more than those existing in approved Budget.

* Document A/AC.16/19

ANNEX 14*

REPLY FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE CABLE FROM MR. KERNO
DATED 13 DECEMBER 1947 (Annex 12)

Please submit to UNSCOB the following in reply to cable ExKerno UNSCOB 10 of 13 December I confirm Kerno's interpretation of my former message and regret that it is practically impossible for me to qualify as unforeseen expenses of Committee for which Assembly itself has so recently voted considerable Special Budget. If at a later stage figures in Special Budget prove absolutely insufficient I will be ready to examine certain moderate adjustments and put matter before Advisory Committee. However such reconsideration will be possible only for such items as interpreters' per diem, writers' local transportation and similar expenses but in no case for purchase of heavy equipment or basic food rations no provision having been provided for such items in Budget voted by Assembly.

* Document A/AC.16/29, 20 December 1947.

ANNEX 15*

REPORT OF THE OBSERVATION GROUP SENT
BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO THE REGION OF DELVINAKION ON
9 DECEMBER 1947

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Report.	PART I
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* Document A/AC.16/26, 19 December 1947.

PART I.

REPORT OF THE OBSERVATION GROUP
SENT BY UNSCOB TO THE DELVINAKION REGION
ON 9 DECEMBER 1947

RAPPORTEUR of the Observation Group: Lt. Colonel Bernard Vernier (France)

I.

In a letter dated 8 December 1947 on an incident taking place in the region of Delvinakion, the Greek Liaison Representative to UNSCOB requested the latter to carry out an immediate investigation (Annex 17).

The Greek request came at a time when Sub-Committee 2 had just approved the opinion of the military experts on the expediency of carrying out without delay a general reconnaissance of the Greek frontier, in order to obtain a direct and overall appreciation of the situation and to prepare for the establishment of the Observation Groups which the Committee had decided to station along that frontier.

The military experts had, moreover, already planned to begin this reconnaissance in the region east of Lake Doiran, in view of the facilities for rapid inspection provided by the Salonika-Ormenion railway. Reconnaissance of the western region, where communications are more difficult, would require more detailed preparation and several visits.

Furthermore, the inevitable slowness of transport in northwestern Epirus gave little hope that they could arrive on the spot in time to carry out the investigations requested by the Greek authorities.

However, considering that the Greek request gave them an opportunity of travelling to the Epirus, where its military experts would have to go in any event, as indeed to all the other frontier regions, the Committee decided to accept the Greek proposal and to instruct some of its military experts to proceed to the Delvinakion region in order to observe the situation there. The Committee gave the military experts a free hand to decide upon the methods for fulfilling their mission.

The following experts were nominated:

Lt. Colonel Bernard Vernier	(France)
Lt. Colonel Alan C. Miller	(United States of America)
Major Federico Chapoy Acosta	(Mexico)

II.

On its arrival in Jannina the Observation Group got into contact with General Antonopoulo, officer commanding the eighth Greek mountain division. He proposed that the observers be present at an operation which he intended to carry out on the following day against a band to the south of Delvinakion. He explained that the attack would be only an episode in the operations carried on

/around Delvinakion since

around Delvinakion since November 1947 after the arrival in that region of bands which had operated in the regions of Metzovo and Konitza in July 1947.

The bands in the region of Delvinakion occupy a zone to the east of the frontier which includes:

Valtista	65/67)	
Kastaniani	68/72)	
Sermes	68/69)	See Map Scale 1:100,000
Lista	70/62)	
Heights of Meghali Rakhi	63/60)	MDR 610 93 29
Heights of Plokista)	
(summit 861 m)	60/61)	Z3 Sheet: Delvinakion.
Tsamandas	60/66)	

namely, a crescent ten kilometers deep at its widest point (Lista), which is a sort of crown to the salient formed by the frontier around Sotire.

This crescent ends in the north in a narrow strip of territory formed by the Valtista Kastaniani ridge along the top of which runs the frontier. This ridge is skirted to the east by the high valley of Lumi Dhrint, along which a motor road runs as far as Sotire.*

General Antonopoulo intended that the Observation Group should be present at an operation aimed at driving back towards the Albanian frontier the band deployed on that ridge, which would have enabled him to show the observers that the enemy positions continued beyond the frontier into Albanian territory, when the bands were said to be receiving supporting fire, and to provoke movements of troops across that part of the frontier and on the lateral communications of Sotire.

The operation did not take place owing to bad weather. However, on 10 December the Group travelled to Kernassovo, where it was able to examine the terrain and the border line in the Valtista-Kastaniani region.

III.

On the afternoon of 10 December and on the 11 - 13 December, when it was impossible to return to Salonika by aircraft owing to weather conditions, the Observation Group, at the request of the Greek authorities, interrogated some ten witnesses (villagers, a schoolmaster, two airmen, a soldier) brought before it by the Greek authorities. The Group also took evidence from some refugees whom it met on the road from Jannina to Kerassovo. Certain facts emerge from the evidence given: they all relate to violations of Greek territory alleged by the Greek authorities.

* The western side of the valley is formed by a ridge of much greater height which is at present snow-covered (Spot heights 1349, 1417, 1168, 1080). The Greeks point out in this connection that the frontier line as established by the Demarcation Commission of 1923, which was presided over by an Italian, is unjust and unfavourable to them, and that it gives Albania an excellent base from which an attack could be launched.

/The violations consist,

The violations consist, it is alleged, in border crossings into and out of Greek territory by armed bandits, by wounded evacuated from Greece to Albania*, by supply convoys (mules and vehicles)**, and of booty seized in Greece and transported to Albania, by the transportation from Greece to Albania of Greek men and women abducted on Greek territory by bands coming from Albania, by use of weapons sited in Albanian territory for fighting carried on on Greek territory, by participation of Albanian subjects in the cruelties perpetrated by the Greek rebels.

The information given by witnesses has been collected either by Greeks compelled to act as guides to the rebels, or by peasants who have fled from their villages when raided by bands, or by Greek Army aircrew.

As regards fire from across the frontier, it should be noted that the accuracy of evidence given is often open to doubt, above all when the location of enemy arms is determined by ear (a very inaccurate method, especially in mountainous country).

With regard to the presence of Albanian subjects in bands on Greek territory, this has been established only on presumption by witnesses (the language spoken by some of the bandits, uniforms and insignia seen by night).

Furthermore, this evidence is old, it deals with events which took place some ten days before, and comes from witnesses brought forward in the main by the Greek authorities after a few days stay at Jannina.

It consists, therefore, only of presumptions.

It should be noted here that the Greek authorities assert, in support of their argument, that there is foreign participation in the bands' activities, that the latter are able to carry on the struggle only because they receive supplies of equipment and munitions which can come from across the frontier only, as the zone occupied by the bands in Greek territory cannot contain all the resources required for so lengthy a struggle.

But the Greek authorities admit that they have not yet captured a single foreign national or a single weapon which was not of German, British or Italian make, except mortar sights.

In any event, there is no reason for supposing that this preparatory reconnaissance enables us to bring back a complete appreciation of the situation in the region of Jannina.

IV.

This brief mission nonetheless provides experience which can be used as a basis for instructions to be given to the permanent observation groups.

* Corresponding to the establishment of a hospital at Gazhdan (52/68) in Albanian territory.

** Corresponding to movements of unusually large motor convoys on the lateral communications of Sotiré.

It is certain that it is these groups who will have to be relied upon almost exclusively to obtain definite information on the situation on the frontiers and the bands' activities. The tactics of the bands and the methods employed by their leaders reveal extreme prudence and systematic efforts to avoid leaving any traces.

The observers should also not be content to wait until an incident is brought to their notice before taking action. Before proceeding to the scene of an incident, they should be thoroughly acquainted with the terrain and the border line in their sector, and should know the local inhabitants as well as possible so as to be able to follow the situation. This work of preliminary and personal investigation, conducted with discretion, will also be the best method of relieving observers from excessive dependence on interpreters, and of counteracting the boredom which might result from a stay in isolated places.

It would also be useful if they were to write periodical reports to keep UNSCOB constantly informed and so enable it to give information and directions to the other observation groups.

When they take evidence, they should make every effort to see that it is as up to date as possible. It should preferably be taken on the spot and from first hand witnesses chosen by the observers, rather than allowing the local authorities to submit witnesses.

They should attach special importance to accuracy.

Identity of Witness

Name, age, nationality, (1) languages spoken, family status, place of birth, residence, profession, occupation at the time of the events.

Dates

These should be expressed in days and months (example: 15.10.47). Expression such as: three days before, two days afterwards, etc., should be avoided.

The twenty-four hour system should be used for stating times. It should be noted that the peasants often make a distinction between day hours and night hours, which they reckon from sunrise or sunset.

Terrain

As regards toponymy, it should be remembered that in this district inhabited by different nationalities a place may have several names in different languages, without taking into account recent names (frontier posts recently named after soldiers killed by the enemy), village names extending to whole districts, multiplicity of places named after the same saint.

If necessary witnesses should be asked to draw a sketch map (make

(1) In certain cases it might be useful to ask the witness where he has voted.

them show the distances, scale and direction), or to make a plan of the site by using objects such as stones, matches, etc. Ask the witness to indicate the exact point or points from which he observed the events.

Check whether from those points he could have seen what he claims to have seen (do this on the spot or by using a contour map).

Facts

These should be expressed in the most definite terms possible - ask the witness what he has seen (lights, smoke) or heard (rate of fire, frequency), rather than asking for his conclusions (the enemy fired a machine gun) - ask for descriptions of clothing or uniforms.

Cumulative Evidence

Ask witnesses to give names and addresses of other witnesses of the same events.

Rules of Procedure

Reference should be made to the rules used by the previous Commission. Interrogations held in public. Repetition of questions. Have the Greek authorities the right to put questions? Have the observers the right to hold whispered consultations before putting a question?

Filing of Interrogations

These should be filed in such a way as to be easily consulted. They should be numbered, and the paragraphs numbered.

Finally, the observers should not limit themselves to investigating infringements of international law and of good neighbourliness, which is the negative aspect of their mission; they should observe above all any indication or possibility of improvement of the situation in their zone, in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 6 of the General Assembly decision of 21 October 1947, setting out UNSCOB's tasks.

PART II

EXPLANATION AND DEMONSTRATION OF TACTICAL POSITIONS
GIVEN AT THE GENERAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE VIIIITH GREEK MOUNTAIN
DIVISION AT IOANNINA ON 9 DECEMBER 1947

The Investigation Group arrived at IOANNINA from SALONIKA by air on 9 December and was received by Brigadier Antonopoulo, O.C. the VIIIth Greek Mountain Division. At once after arrival, a detailed technical explanation was given by the Brigadier and his staff officers with the help of large-scale army maps, which lasted about one hour.

According to the explanations given with the aid of these maps, the action of guerrillas in the region north and northwest of IOANNINA, and west, northwest and southwest of DELVINAKION, starting on November 26th, was demonstrated, as also the counteraction taken by the Greek Government troops.

ZITSA was passed on that date by two groups of Andartes, of which one presently attacked that village in the course of the morning, but was repulsed and driven off in a northwesterly direction. The other group had proceeded in northerly and northwesterly directions toward DELVINAKION, but on approaching this township they had been thrown back by regular troops. The Andartes had three companies on the western border with Albania. At the time of these operations, there were only some fifteen to twenty men Government troops in DELVINAKION under the command of a captain. Greek troops also attacked from a position east of DELVINAKION, in a westerly direction, in order to prevent the road to KONITSA being cut and that town being attacked by guerrilla bands.

After KONITSA was out of danger, the bandits withdrew in a westerly direction and took up positions on top of the KASSIDARI Mountain Range, on the west of which are a number of villages with rather important herds and food supplies.

That mountain range had been cleared the day before arrival of the United Nations party. In a southwesterly direction of the range were four companies of guerrilla troops, and a battalion of regular troops was on its way there. The Brigadier stated that if his manoeuvre to pin the bandits down in that position proved successful, he intended to combine the two main bodies of his troops and to drive the Andartes in a northwesterly direction against the Albanian border. Altogether there were at least six bandit battalions in that region, four under the Epirus Commander Petritis and two under command of Ypsylantis.

The position of the previous night was that one guerrilla battalion had taken up positions on the Albanian border, where it had been for the last

/four days

four days; five other battalions were encamped right underneath the mountain range, and there was possibly another battalion somewhat more to the southwest. Indicating the positions in a somewhat more detailed manner, the staff officers showed two of these battalions to be somewhere halfway between the mountain range and the border, two others which had been thrown back from the southern part of the range now also in a more westerly position, and one other battalion already on the border. The Government operations aimed at driving all these battalions against the frontier.

Colonel Miller (United States of America) put a number of detailed questions to the staff officers regarding the state of some highways which he indicated on the map, one leading west to SKIPPY. It appeared that some of the roads were impassable on account of blown-up bridges, the latter road, however, being open. Generally, the area indicated by Colonel Miller was not under command of Brigadier Antonoupoulo, who stated that there were no Andartes in that region at the present moment.

Indicating on the map the region where operations were being effected, an Intelligence Officer pointed out the exact dispositions of the Andartes, adding that all Greek frontier posts had been withdrawn there. Notes were accordingly made by the United Nations party on their 1:100,000 staff maps of the region.

The Greek staff officers added that all loot of the DELVINAKTION region was being removed by the bandits to Albania, where their wounded were also looked after in a hospital expressly installed for that purpose.

Details of the last-known positions of Government troops and Andartes, as well as distances involved, were indicated to the members of the Field Group. The distance of VALTISPA, in the vicinity of which one battalion of guerrilla troops was said to be stationed, to the Albanian border was about 800 metres; the distance from the Andartes Headquarters at AYIA MARINA to the border, $1\frac{1}{2}$ kilometres; the distance from KASTANIANI to the border, 1 kilometre.

Demonstrating the operations on the map, the officers stated that on 23 November a large transport column had arrived from Albania and crossed the border near STAVROSKLACHI, and, travelling through the interior of Greek territory, had contacted a group of bandits near POGONIAN. A joint convoy was assembled which proceeded as far as PONDIKATES where the night of 30 November - 1 December was spent.

The convoy proceeded on 1 December to SKIPPY (a place named after a soldier killed in battle, not indicated on the map) near frontier post 13. The border crossing by the convoy had been observed by one of the witnesses (the first witness of the hearings that followed the explanations and

/demonstration),

demonstration) near frontier mark ("pyramid") 18. The officers furthermore stated that the convoy was observed on 1 December by a Greek reconnaissance plane which thereupon attacked and strafed that convoy between 10:05, when it was first observed, and noon. Another Government plane which took part in the strafing developed machine gun trouble and had to return to its base. The pilot soon returned and continued operations. During the second part of operations on the part of that pilot his plane was fired at twice from Albanian territory (1:100,000 Greece Sheet Z.3, DELVINAKION, block 61-86, R). Many witnesses from across the border, mostly peasants, had been fired at. Presently two pilots observed that the two convoys scattered and took refuge on Albanian territory. The planes then returned to their base. Peasants were said to have witnessed that the convoys and the guerrillas crossed the border at PANAYIA (1:100,000 Greece Sheet Z.3, DELVINAKION, block 62-84 R).

PART III

Appendix 1

HEARINGS HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 1947

HEARING OF WITNESS MINIS, ANASTASIOS

The first witness is:

MINIS, ANASTASIOS, age 28, from KALAMATA, pilot in the Royal Greek Air Force.

The WITNESS, on being asked to tell the Committee the most important facts he has to relate, states as follows:

On 1 December, in my capacity of pilot of one of two reconnaissance planes, I went on mission to XIROVALTOS. At about 10.30 a.m. I was patrolling above the road between KALDIRIMI and XIROVALTOS, as we had received information that three cars with partisans were travelling along that road towards the Albanian border. I was not successful in locating the cars, however, near XIROVALTOS, at a distance of about one kilometre from the border, I spotted some partisans with mules and horses spread over a distance of about half a kilometre. I strafed them, but presently my machine gun developed trouble and I had to return. At the base I changed my plane and returned again to the border region with three planes. When I got back over the target I found the partisans as the other aircraft was still engaged in strafing them. They took refuge in Albanian territory. I noticed that anti-aircraft tracer bullets were fired from a small knoll (point 687) in Albanian territory. I informed the other aircraft, which continued strafing on the Greek side of the border. The persons who were not able to cross the border took cover. After I had used up my ammunition I returned to my base.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): Do I understand rightly that witness states that he had to return to his base on account of trouble with his machine gun, and that he returned to the border region and saw his colleague continuing to strafe the guerillas?

WITNESS confirms this point and adds: I instructed my colleague to shoot only in short bursts, enough to stop them from crossing the border.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): If I understand correctly he saw that his colleague fired on the convoy where it crossed the border.

WITNESS: The first time that we strafed the column I fired two bursts, then gun trouble developed. The second time the three planes found a different position; the partisans were scattered and had partially taken cover in a house on the frontier. They crossed the border in small parties,

/one by one,

one by one, or two by two.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): Would it have been possible for the strafing planes to have fired on Albanian territory, which might have caused anti-aircraft fire?

WITNESS: We were firing at a distance of about 1 kilometre from the border. I may have been mistaken over a small distance of say 10 or 15 metres but not more.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): Did you fire over Albanian territory?

WITNESS: I am certain that was not the case, because when we were fired upon we were flying away from the border, meeting the convoy with our fire.

Colonel MILLER (United States) asked the witness to give indications on a map, and witness complied with this request.

Colonel Miller then asked details about the flying manoeuvre and the turning round of the planes.

WITNESS: We fired from an altitude of 200 metres. It was easy as the terrain was nearly flat. Witness then explained with matches some technical manoeuvring points, especially the turning round and circling of the planes.

Colonel MILLER (United States): What was the calibre of the anti-aircraft arms?

WITNESS: Either $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm. or $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

General ANTONIOU (Greece): I believe these must have been machine guns, as I do not think there are anti-aircraft guns there. Could it have been possible that you fired on Albanian territory?

WITNESS: Impossible, even if some bullets had ricocheted on the rocks.

Colonel MILLER (United States): How many men do you think you saw crossing into Albanian territory?

WITNESS: They entered in scattered groups; I think I saw some 25 of them actually crossing, but I could not see them all.

Appendix 2

HEARINGS HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 1947

HEARING OF WITNESS KIOKAS, MITIADIS

The second witness is:

KIOKAS, MITIADIS, age 27, born in POLITSA, Epiros, teacher in STAVROSKHLADI

The WITNESS, upon being asked what he has to relate, states as follows:

I am a teacher. When we heard there were Andartes we all scattered and hid in the mountains. I myself escaped and hid close to the frontier, near TSOROTA, in the vicinity of Frontier Post 18. On Sunday, 20 November at about 5.30 p.m., I noticed about 100 mules coming from Albanian territory and entering Greek territory. I did not feel safe and moved on to BOSOVO mountain, intending to hide in the forest of BOUNA. Before reaching it, however, at daybreak I was near the village of XIROVALTOS. I did not see any people and I hid among rocks near the frontier post of SKIPPY. As I had been hungry for many days I was searching for food, and when I was looking in the direction of the village of PONDIKATES I saw bandits entering the village with many mules. This was on Monday, 1 December. They remained there for 1 hour. Between 8.00 and 9.00 a.m. they moved on towards XIROVALTOS near SKIPPY. The convoy was somewhere between the middle of the plain of XIROVALTOS and the frontier post of SKIPPY when I observed two Greek aircraft coming from DELVINAKION and following the road from IRUMI (?) to POGONIANI. From POGONIANI they turned to PONDIKATES and from there into the plain. Above the plain they must have noticed the convoy proceeding to the border and I saw both planes circle, dive and fire. I myself was about 500 metres away from the head of the convoy when it was fired upon. The men scattered left and right and some of them went in the direction of SKIPPY frontier post, where there are bushes and trees. Presently I saw the first plane leave, I do not know why. The second plane circled and continued to fire on the convoy. The partisans, who were on one side, all ran to the Albanian border. Before the aircraft arrived I had noticed movements in Albanian territory, and when the Greek planes came on the spot and opened fire, the Albanians shot at the planes. This is all that I myself observed. After two days, when I reached the village of ARYIROKHORI to get some food, I met five persons who gave me further information.

The witness then gave the names of three of these men whom he remembered.

Colonel VERNIER (France): At what distance were you from the mules

when you saw them on 20 November?

WITNESS: Not more than 150 metres away.

Colonel VERNIER (France): How were you hidden?

WITNESS: Among rocks. When I saw them I took cover and observed in what direction they were moving.

Colonel VERNIER (France): What did you notice on the Greek planes to make you decide that they were Greek army aircraft? Could they have been other aircraft?

WITNESS: No, because they attacked the partisans in this operation, and because I know they often do.

Colonel VERNIER (France): Did you ever hear or observe planes other than Greek drop objects by parachute over Greek territory?

Mr. VAN SCHREVEN (Secretary): I am afraid this question should not be allowed to be put to witness, anyway not in this form. It seems to me to be a leading question.

WITNESS: I am a teacher in the village of STAVROSKIADI and I saw sometimes planes coming over from Albanian territory in the direction of KONITSA which were not Greek planes.

Colonel VERNIER (France): Have you seen them dropping arms?

WITNESS: In my district I did not see such a thing, but I often read about planes of unknown nationality coming over and doing so.

Mr. DROSSOS (Greek Liaison Representative): Bearing in mind the position where the guerrillas were stationed, would there have been a possibility of their receiving arms, munitions or food from Albanian territory?

WITNESS: That is just the point; because these places are easy for them to receive such supplies, they go there.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): Why is witness here?

WITNESS: The bandits are used to killing all men from the places through which they pass who do not wish to join up with them, or they use them for forced labour, even small children and other persons. In one case, the entire population of a village was compelled to leave and could only return later under the protection of Greek forces.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): How long has witness been here?

WITNESS: For two days.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): Why did you follow the convoy which you saw crossing from Albanian territory into Greece?

WITNESS: The position is just the reverse; when I saw this convoy go from STAVROSKIADI I had to climb Mt. BOSOVO in the direction of the Albanian border and I passed Mt. BOSOVO and went towards DELVINAKION.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): You stated before that you were in BOUNA.

Why was this

Why was this the case if you came to DELVINAKION?

WITNESS: I started from BOSOVO, going to BOUNA because there are forests and I wanted to hide and seek out a herd as well as to get information. I was going to DELVINAKION because this was obviously the first place for the Greek troops to go. I could understand this because I am an army reserve officer.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): When did you leave your village?

WITNESS: Sunday morning, 30 November, at 4.00 a.m. At 8.00 p.m. I left pyramid 18 when I saw partisans going in the direction of SLAVROSEHIADI.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): You said before that the bandits had a habit of taking away the villagers. Why did you not leave your village sooner?

WITNESS: We heard the noise of battle on the heights of DELVINAKION and feared that all passes would be closed.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): Why did you not leave sooner than 30 November?

WITNESS: I did not know anything was going to happen.

Major CHAPOY (Mexico): Were there any bandits there before this time?

WITNESS: No.

Colonel MILLER (United States of America): When were there bandits last in STAVROSKEIADI previous to this incident?

WITNESS: Six or seven months ago some bandits made their appearance there.

Colonel MILLER (United States of America): What month?

WITNESS: In June, before the incident of KONITSA.

Colonel MILLER (United States of America): Did any Andartes pass near your village during the KONITSA incident?

WITNESS: Yes, they passed and one team of the Greek army attacked them and they passed on into Albanian territory at exactly the same place, at a landmark which is a cross. The Andartes were attacked by men of the frontier post of DRIMALON.

Colonel MILLER (United States of America): You just said that you had not seen any Andartes since June and now you say that it was during the KONITSA incident. There would seem to be a contradiction here.

WITNESS: I did not mean before but during the incident. One band passed our village. It was harvest time and some women noticed them and informed the Greek army, which took action; one Greek soldier was wounded and passed by the cross of TSOROTA.

Appendix 3

HEARING OF WITNESS, MEMOS, ATHANASIOS

The witness is an Albanian of Greek descent, 22 years of age, of profession a tailor, living at MOUZINA.

The witness on being asked to tell his story states as follows:

In Albania I was serving in the office of the Security Police. The Albanian Government acts against the Greek Government.

Mr. DROSSOS (Greek Liaison Representative): How do you know that and what concrete facts can you present in support of your statement?

WITNESS: It is prohibited to approach closer than a distance of five kilometres from the frontier. There is a hospital in GRASSDAN. They tell the people this is a precaution against cholera. I know this to be a lie, but they want to hospitalize guerrillas and they want to prevent people from seeing them passing there. I have heard that they are now building a new hospital in KATO LESHITSA.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): We are only interested in learning your own observations, not what you know from hearsay.

WITNESS: All these things I have seen myself -- the hospital, the five-kilometre zone, etc.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Under what circumstances, and what did you do yourself?

WITNESS: I could observe this because I had a confidential position. I have been there myself, though it is forbidden for people to go there.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): I do not think this reply is satisfactory.

WITNESS: (Elaborating) I myself went into the hospital and I have also been in the five-kilometre zone.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Why did you come to Greek territory? What was your function before?

WITNESS: I was a typist in the service of the Security Police.

GENERAL ANTONOPOULO (Greece) In which village?

WITNESS: DELVINO.

MR. DROSSOS (Greek Liaison Representative) Do you know DELVINO well?

WITNESS: I have been there seven months.

MR. DROSSOS (Greek Liaison Representative) Had you ever been there before that time?

WITNESS: Yes.

MR. DROSSOS (Greek Liaison Representative) Do you know a pharmacy at DELVINO?

WITNESS: Yes, I do.

/MR. DROSSOS

MR. DROSSOS (Greek Liaison Representative): What is the name?

WITNESS: It is a government pharmacy.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Have you ever, with your own eyes, seen Andartes cross into Greek territory?

WITNESS: No.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Have you ever seen Greek Andartes in Albania?

WITNESS: When they come there, they wear civilian clothes.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Answer my question.

WITNESS: At ARGYROKASTRON some of the officers of the Security Police told me they were Andartes.

MR. DROSSOS (Greek Liaison Representative): Have you seen them yourself?

WITNESS: They pointed them out to me.

MR. DROSSOS (Greek Liaison Representative): Were there many or only a few?

WITNESS: There were two.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Have you ever seen supplies being taken across the border from Albania into Greece?

WITNESS: No.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Were the only Andartes or Andarte installations you ever saw those two Andartes in ARGYROKASTRON and the hospital at GRASSDAN?

WITNESS: Also that it is forbidden for the people to go closer than five kilometres from the border and also that the Albanian Government pretends this to be only a cholera precaution.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did you enter the hospital and did you see wounded guerrillas?

WITNESS: No, I did not enter. The new hospital is only one month old.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Why did you leave Albania and come here?

WITNESS: I am Greek and when I saw the Albanian government act against the Greek Government I came here. That is the only reason.

MAJOR CHAPOY (Mexico): What is your age?

WITNESS: 22.

(Mr. DROSSOS, Greek Liaison Representative, then made a remark to the effect that Greeks over there are compelled to take on Albanian nationality.)

Appendix 4

HEARING OF WITNESS, EFANDIS, THOMAS

The witness is an Albanian, of Greek descent, born in KRISO THOULY (FOGONIYOU), coming from DELVINAKION, a carpenter by profession.

The witness on being asked to tell his story states as follows:

Thursday afternoon, 27th November, we were attacked. The Greek army unit was only small and it was forced to withdraw. We were scared because we knew what would happen then. We followed the Greek troops toward KASTANIANI.

GENERAL ANTONOPOULO (Greece): At which post exactly?

WITNESS: DELVINAKION. When we approached KASTANIANI, the army unit marched past and the civilians followed it. KASTANIANI was occupied by Albanians and partisans.

GENERAL ANTONOPOULO (Greece): Was this at KASTANIANI or at a border?

WITNESS: The Albanians were firing from the frontier and partisans from the village.

MR. DROSSOS (Greek Liaison Representative): Has the witness himself seen Albanians fire?

WITNESS: Yes, they were going through trenches on the heights on the borderline, moving in and out of Greek and Albanian territory.

GENERAL ANTONOPOULO (Greece) (Explains): The mountain ridge is exactly on the borderline.

WITNESS: When we saw we could not go through, we withdrew to VALTISTA and over there the Albanians fired on us from our left-hand side.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): When you say you saw fire from the Albanian side, what exactly did you see: did you actually see fire forthcoming, did you see men, and at what time did you observe this? Also at what distance?

WITNESS: It was the afternoon of November 28th at about 2 p.m. I was some 400 to 500 metres away. I saw those people myself.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): How many?

WITNESS: I saw two groups, altogether some 15 to 20 people, going along and climbing -- sometimes a few together and sometimes scattered.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did you see bandit movements near KASTANIANI, did you see bandits joining these groups?

WITNESS: I did not see Albanians speak with the partisans because I was some 400 metres away, but I saw the Albanians.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did you see troop movements, as I asked you?

WITNESS: No, I did not see them join the Andartes. Incidentally, I have much more to relate, especially about some 150 other men. The civilians and troops returned to VALTISTA. Over there there were no Andartes. We were fired on from hills by two machine guns.

/COLONEL MILLER

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): What exactly do you mean by "over there"? Where were those two machine guns?

WITNESS: I was in VALTISTA, the machine guns were on the frontier. We left VALTISTA, it was night-time, and we went to the hills of MAVROPOULO. The highest of these hills is called PALAIKASTROU. There we noticed Albanian motorcars from GEORGOTSATES going toward LONGO. I saw them on two nights. I think there must have been some 60 cars, maybe 50, but anyway more than 30.

GENERAL ANTONOPOULO (Greece) (Explaining): There is a new road to LONGO which is not marked on this map.

MAJOR CHAPOY (Mexico): Where were the cars coming from?

WITNESS: From GEORGOTSATES. I remained over there the whole of the next day, and on Monday afternoon aircraft arrived. They searched the hills and passed over MAVROPOULO hill and the Albanians fired on them from all their frontier posts. When the aircraft fired on the partisans, I was some 1,500 metres away from them. After the strafing of one particular place, we noticed some 150 partisans coming from Albanian into Greek territory.

GENERAL ANTONOPOULO (Greece): On what spot was that?

WITNESS: Aircraft fired back over a spot called LIMNY XIROVALTOS. Personally, I do not know any more, apart from the fact that four brothers, Greeks, came from Albanian territory and picked up their families in the village of KRISOTHOULY and returned with them to Albania. Two of them came into Greek territory accompanied by Albanians and, after having looted the place, took five members of their families back with them to Albania.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did you see any wounded Andartes being taken over the frontier into Albania?

WITNESS: No.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did you see any supplies entering Greece from Albania?

WITNESS: No. I did not see such a thing, only the cars on those two nights. They usually take supplies over about once a week.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Will you review again briefly the times you observed the Andartes crossing the border in either direction?

WITNESS: I saw Andartes on the first of the month in the afternoon coming from Albania towards Greek territory near PANAYIA.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did they cross the border?

WITNESS: Yes.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How many?

WITNESS: I did not count them -- there must have been about 150. Over there there is a forest and they were going into the forest.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Any other times?

WITNESS: No.

The session was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Appendix 5

HEARINGS ON 10 DECEMBER IN THE FIELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS
OF THE 76TH BRIGADE (THREE BATTALIONS) AT KALPAKI (ELAIA)

The Brigadier commanding the post related that in the last few weeks casualties amounted to 25 wounded and seven killed, the villages were burned and a number of elderly people were executed. He gave details about a married couple, both over 80, and their son, in whose house a rifle was found by the Andartes, and how all three were dragged into a public square and executed. He stated:

I estimated that about half of them have gone now on account of the casualties and men returning to Albania. Since May, since I have been stationed here, this has been the fifteenth time in all that troops were re-equipped. We just missed rounding up some 50 Andartes who got stranded after having run out of ammunition. They used the villagers as a screen to protect them. Unfortunately darkness set in about one hour too early to allow us to complete the manoeuvre. They left mortars behind. If I remember well; they were either three-inch of British manufacture, or 81 mm. of Italian manufacture. Now high waterlevels and the recent thunderstorm have interfered with our observations on the spot.

The first witness among the refugees arriving at field headquarters in KALPAKI (ELAIA) is:

KOUKOULARIS, KRISTOS, a fruit shop proprietor, 20 years old,
Born at KALPAKI, from the village of POGONIANI.

The WITNESS on being asked to tell his story, states that he saw one partisan captain and four other men who were wounded and who told him it happened in VIGLA. Continuing, witness states: I myself was in KAKOLAKO. They got a guide from that place who took them to DRIMADES and from there they took another guide to take them to SOPEKY (SOPIK) which is an Albanian village I know this to be the case as the first guide told me so. This happened on Sunday a week ago, the 30th November.

Appendix 6

HEARING OF WITNESS, SPIRIDES, GRIGORIOS

The second witness is:

SPIRIDES, GRIGORIOS, born in SOPEKY (SOPIK) from the village of POGONIANI, an Albanian subject of Greek descent, age 38, a carpenter by profession.

The witness on being asked to tell his story states:

200 Andartes came to POGONIANI and looted all the fruit supplies on Monday, December 1st. I was hidden in MEROPI village. They passed by with guides and went to the village of DRIMADOS, near the frontier where they got 17 or 18 mules. The guide was SPIRO EKONOMO, whom I met later. He brought back 15 mules.

According to the guide's statement, they went to SOPEKY (SOPIK).

Appendix 7

HEARING OF WITNESS, BERATIS, KONSTANDINOS

The third witness is:

BERATIS, KONSTANDINOS, from the village of
KEFALOVRISON, 26 years old, a shepherd

The WITNESS states that he accompanied wounded Andartes to the border and got between the Greek and Albanian border posts at KAKAVIA. On Monday, 1st December, they took 19 persons. He himself escaped together with five others and the rest were retained in the Andartes Headquarters in KASTANIANI. The Albanians took over the wounded guerrillas.

File on ...

Appendix 8

HEARING OF WITNESS GAMBRANIS, IOANNIS

Held on 11 December 1947, 7.30 p.m.

The name of the witness is GAMBRANIS, IOANNIS, age 43 from DELVINAKION, father of four children, President of the Village of DELVINAKION and a private lawyer.

WITNESS states as follows: On Thursday, two weeks ago, an attack of partisans took place on the Village of DELVINAKION.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Where were you at that time?

WITNESS: At DELVINAKION. When we saw the partisans approaching, we all escaped across a ravine which stretches between DELVINAKION and the main road to POGONIANNI. I arrived at a forest where I spent all night.

The next morning I proceeded to a hill covered with forest, after having passed a river, and I spent all day there.

On Friday, at 2 p.m., the Andartes attacked the frontier post of KASTANIANI. After about one hour I noticed mortar shells coming over from Albanian territory.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How did you get from DELVINAKION to KASTANIANI?

WITNESS: I did not go there, but I stood on a hill and noticed the attack and further developments.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What kind of soldiers occupied KASTANIANI that day? Were they Greek?

WITNESS: They were Greek soldiers.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): How many?

WITNESS: I do not know their actual strength, but I do remember there was a platoon.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): How long have they been there?

WITNESS: Since the liberation of Greece, although they were not always the same persons. They were changed occasionally.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What did the soldiers do, during the attack on DELVINAKION? Did they come to the assistance of that village?

WITNESS: They were stationed at the post of KASTANIANI.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did the people of DELVINAKION call on any troops for assistance?

WITNESS: No, I cannot say definitely. The attack on DELVINAKION lasted fifteen minutes.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Can you indicate the place from where you observed the attack on KASTANIANI?

/WITNESS: (Indicates

WITNESS: (Indicates with objects on the table his position, explaining that the distance from where he was, to DELVINAKION, was about seven and a half kilometres, or one and a half hours walking distance).

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What was your distance from KASTANIANI?

WITNESS: About four hours, or a distance of twenty kilometres.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Can you indicate how you got to this place of observation?

WITNESS: I walked from DELVINAKION through a valley and came to a road leading to POGONIANI. (Gives further demonstration on the table.) I then crossed the road, walked up a hill and spent all night there. The next morning I crossed a river and proceeded to a place where I spent all next day.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Would you repeat what you saw from the Albanian border?

WITNESS: I saw a battle develop between the partisans and the garrison post. After one hour I saw mortar shells from Albanian territory pouring into the frontier post and stopping the fire from that post.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): How can you be certain that it was mortar fire which fell on KASTANIANI, and what did you observe with your own eyes?

WITNESS: I saw with my own eyes shells falling on that post and thereafter I heard explosions and saw smoke; before that I heard the noise of mortars from Albanian territory.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did you see flashes?

WITNESS: No.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): How could you locate the position from where the noise of mortar fire originated?

WITNESS: From the position where I stood I was facing the uphill side of Greek territory. If the fire had come from Greek territory, I would have heard it clearly, but as it was, the noise was muffled as it came from the other side of the mountain range.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did you see the explosion of mortar shells before you heard the noise of mortar fire?

WITNESS: At the same moment I heard the noise of firing and saw the explosions of shells, and after four or five minutes, I heard the explosions. (Witness being further questioned on this point states that he is afraid he cannot say exactly how much time lapsed between those events).

COLONEL VERNIER (France): How many explosions did you hear and at what intervals?

WITNESS: I cannot say definitely. Roughly some fifteen to twenty; all within fifteen minutes. Incidentally, I did not go to observe this battle. I just happened to see it and I hid because I was afraid.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Are there any other details you want to tell us about?

WITNESS: Monday, about noon, I noticed three planes firing on a convoy of mules going from PONTOGADES to the frontier post of SKIPPY.

/COLONEL MILLER

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): In connection with your statement that you saw mortar fire two weeks ago, on a Friday, on which Monday did this event take place?

WITNESS: On Friday they attacked the village. On Saturday and Sunday I remained in the mountains. On Monday, some peasant women gave information to the effect that the partisans had left and that the Greek troops were in DELVINAKION. I walked to DELVINAKION, and at a place called St. DIMITRIOS of DELVINAKION, I saw three planes.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How far is St. DIMITRIOS from the Village of DELVINAKION.

WITNESS: Some one and a half to two kilometres by road. (Not as the crow flies). I saw aircraft fire on the convoy. The three planes were fired at in turn by anti-aircraft fire, coming from Albania.

(Session closed at 8:30 p.m.).

Appendix 9

HEARINGS HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 1947, AT 9.45 A.M.

(Continued in the hospital of Ioannina at 11.30 a.m.)

HEARING OF WITNESS SOULEIMAN, ADEM

The first witness is:

SOULEIMAN, ADEM, farmer, age 28, Greek citizen of Turkish descent living at KRISOHOULY.

The WITNESS states as follows:

On 2 December the Andartes took me from my village as a guide into the forest. We started at 11 p.m. and I was guiding them. They told me that they wanted to pass KATAVIA to go to VALPISTA. When we arrived at some 100 metres distance from the frontier post of KATAVIA I told the leader that I was afraid they might shoot at us from the Albanian frontier; I was some 10 metres ahead of them. He told me not to worry as they would never shoot at us. The leader then made signals to the Albanian side by means of a torch lamp which was answered in the same way. When we arrived at the Greek frontier post, three Andarte chiefs who were riding on horseback and who had been following me, met some Albanians on the road at the border.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Were the Albanians on the border or at the Greek frontier post?

WITNESS: At the Greek frontier post. They saluted and embraced each other and the three chiefs entered Albanian territory. We stayed at the Greek frontier post for about two hours. The Andartes had two wounded whom they transported into Albanian territory. After two hours we took the direction for VALPISTA. Two Albanians who accompanied the three Andarte chiefs when they returned came along with us for a while in Greek territory. I escaped and then took another guide. They had taken ten girls from RIZIA and sent them from VALPISTA into Albania. I was in KATUNA and saw them take another guide. On 2 December, I saw Albanian machine gun fire at Greek planes continuously from morning until afternoon.

MAJOR CHAPOY (Mexico): Where were you?

WITNESS: In KRISOHOULY. On the first of December, I saw an Albanian car coming from Albanian territory, going to KATUNA.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): How many men took you for a guide?

WITNESS: One, the others had surrounded the villa.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): How many were you in all when you went on your way?

WITNESS: About 500.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What language was spoken?

WITNESS: Another language, sometimes Greek, but not very well.

/COLONEL VERNIER

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What language do you speak yourself?

WITNESS: Greek.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Do you speak Albanian?

WITNESS: No.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): How were the men dressed?

WITNESS: They wore civilian clothes, which were ragged and they had pieces of thick leather instead of shoes, in the manner of the local peasants. Only the chiefs had military uniforms.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did they have any insignia?

WITNESS: No, nothing. But the Andartes had dressed them as Major, Brigadier, etc.

COLONEL VERNIER (France) (asks the witness to demonstrate on the table the position of himself, the machine guns and the border line): What date was it and what time?

WITNESS: 2 December, the events happened all during the day until 4 p.m.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How could you be sure that the machine guns fired from Albanian territory when you were about half an hour distant?

WITNESS: I could see and hear them and there were no Greeks there. Aircraft arrived near the border and turned back. The Andartes went from SKIPPY to PANAYIA, got into the valley and disappeared in the forest.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Could you see SKIPPY from where you were?

WITNESS: Yes. The Albanian frontier post is exactly on the hill and the Andartes were passing some 100 metres from this border on Greek territory.

(Witness meanwhile has drawn a sketch map at the request of Colonel Vernier).

COLONEL VERNIER (France) (After checking with the large map): That is correct, that fits in.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Since the spot indicated by you along the border line is all wooded and the ground slopes away in a westerly direction, how was it possible for you to see the Albanian machine guns from the position in which you were?

WITNESS (indicating the forest in a somewhat different position than that indicated by Colonel Miller states that that was not where he was himself).

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): When you were at the frontier post of KATAVIA, did you see with your own eyes Andarte chiefs cross the frontier line?

WITNESS: Yes.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did the same Andarte chiefs who went into Albania return to KATAVIA?

WITNESS: Yes.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Will you describe the uniforms of the Albanians at the frontier post of KATAVIA?

WITNESS (Indicating the colour of the rain coat worn by Colonel Antoniou):
They came close to us and I observed that they were wearing cartridge belts.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): What were their hats like?

WITNESS: Like those of our gendarmerie.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How do you know they were not gendarmes?

WITNESS: Because they spoke Albanian.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Were the hats exactly the same?

WITNESS: They had peaked caps.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Does that mean they were different from the other caps?

WITNESS: Yes.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): What difference?

WITNESS: The caps were not so high as those of the gendarmerie and they were not of the same colour.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What was the colour?

WITNESS: The same as their uniforms.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Which insignia did they have on their caps?

WITNESS: I could not see, it was night time.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How do you know they took ten girls from VALTISTA into Albania?

WITNESS: I saw them and asked the Andartes about it, who said they took them there.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): What did you see?

WITNESS: That they took them in.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did you see them cross the border with your own eyes?

WITNESS: Of course I did.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): At what point did they cross the border?

WITNESS: (Indicates position on the sketch map)

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did you see the two wounded Andartes being transported across the border line?

WITNESS: Yes, I did.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did you see any supplies coming from Albania into Greece?

WITNESS: You mean at that time?

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): At any time.

WITNESS: No.

/COLONEL MILLER

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did the Andartes have any signal equipment, such as telephones or radios?

WITNESS: No.

COLONEL ANTONIOU (Greece): Can you tell us exactly the days (not the dates) on which the Albanian machine guns fired at the Greek planes?

WITNESS: Monday.

COLONEL ANTONIOU (Greece): That is not December 2, but December 1.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Was the day which you stated as being the second day, the second of the month or the second of the week?

WITNESS: No, the day, Monday.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): When you state the firing at planes as taking place on the 2nd of December and later refer to the same happening as taking place on a Monday - which happens to be the 1st of December - could there possibly be any misunderstanding on your part?

WITNESS: It was Monday, 2 December.

Appendix 10

HEARING OF WITNESS VERTSAYAS, SPIRIDON

The name of the second witness is:

VERTSAYAS, SPIRIDON, from ZAKINTHOS, a farmer and a private in the Greek Army, 27 years old

WITNESS states as follows:

The day before yesterday, a battle took place at the frontier post of HOLMOUNY. Albanians or Andartes took that post and burned it. I got wounded by a shot from that post.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): (Asks witness to indicate position, which witness does).

WITNESS: It was Wednesday, December 10, 5 a.m.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did you see the Andartes, or what did you observe?

WITNESS: No, I did not see the Andartes. It was night, but the first shots came from the frontier "pyramid". I was wounded at about 6 a.m.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): How do you explain that the men came around in the way you have indicated?

WITNESS: All this country is rocky and mountainous, and there was a pathway which was guarded.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): (Asks witness if he can indicate the way the border runs in this region, which is done by witness): Why do you mention that pathway? Was that the only way the Andartes could approach?

WITNESS: The pathway led to the hill occupied by the Andartes, and that was indeed the only way they could come, unless they proceeded through the brush, but it would be impossible for animals to do so.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Can you indicate the exact way which was followed?

WITNESS: (Indicates a direction away from Albanian territory).

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Exactly where were the men who attacked your post when you saw them?

WITNESS: Our guard stated that they came from Albanian territory.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): (Repeats his question in an effort to get a more direct answer).

WITNESS: We saw them in Albanian territory. They attacked our frontier post and took it.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Who are the men who have seen the enemy in Albanian territory?

WITNESS: One of my friends, who was a guard, stated that they came from Albanian territory.

/COLONEL MILLER

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Have you seen them there yourself?

WITNESS: I did not. I was on another spot and it was night time; I could not see them.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Can you give us the name of the other man?

WITNESS: Constantinos Saulis.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): When did you talk to him?

WITNESS: When I was wounded I left and walked for one or two hours. I then met Saulis who bandaged my wound.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Would it have been possible for the men who attacked your post to have approached from Greek territory?

WITNESS: The Greek territory in that vicinity was guarded well and they could not have come from there. They approached from behind our position.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did you hear any of the attackers talk?

WITNESS: No.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Which way were you facing when hit?

WITNESS: Towards the frontier post and the frontier (Indicates the exact position). I had a Bren gun and was firing.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What did you fire at?

WITNESS: Upon the frontier post. It was burning and they fired at us, and they were also firing from Very pistols (flares) ("Pistolets Signalisateurs")

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Who used those flare pistols?

WITNESS: They did.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Will you indicate from where and in which direction those pistols were fired?

WITNESS: (Indicates)

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Does that mean that you did not fire at the post but in the direction of the border?

WITNESS: Where we were there was not trouble, but in front of us, there was.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How many men attacked?

WITNESS: Many; there was a lot of fire.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Could you say approximately how many?

WITNESS: More than one hundred.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How many of you were there?

WITNESS:

WITNESS: Sixty. And behind us there was another Company, behind the hills in the village of AYIPANDAS.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did your comrades fall back to the place where you were?

WITNESS: No, I left when I got wounded.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What was the name of your officer in command?

WITNESS: Our Commander was Captain Ioannis VLAHOU.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Where was he during the battle?

WITNESS: (Indicates): When they attacked, he was in the frontier post. Half an hour before I was wounded, he withdrew as indicated.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): So you know the name of your Section Commander?

WITNESS: Our platoon had one Staff Sergeant whose name was Athanasios. That is his first name; I do not know his family name.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did the bullet pass through your body?

WITNESS: It did not stay in.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Where were you hit?

WITNESS: (Indicates top of left shoulder).

Appendix 11

HEARING OF WITNESS YAROUKALIS, ANESTIS

The name of the third witness is:

YAROUKALIS, ANESTIS, from ATHENS, a Pilot Officer in the Greek
Air Force, 30 years old

WITNESS states as follows:

On the first of December, at about 10 a.m., I took off from Ioannina Airport, as I was under orders to patrol above the road from Delviniakion leading in a northerly direction. On returning in a southwesterly direction near XIROVALTOS, I saw some hundred mules. I was the leader of our flying patrol. I told the second plane to follow me. We circled, dived and attacked the column, circled and repeated the attack. The other plane developed trouble and returned to base. I did not know the reason, as he could not communicate with me by radio. I had radio equipment, however, and asked the base for another plane. I was waiting for that plane, and while doing so I used my ammunition sparsely, as I had only a small amount. After a quarter of an hour, two other aircraft arrived, and by this time groups of men and mules were trying to enter Albanian territory.

I fired at small groups to show the way to the other planes. When I finished my ammunition, I returned to base and left the other two planes to continue.

MR. VAN SCHREVEN (Secretary): I understand that this was not the operation in which you were wounded.

WITNESS: No.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did you see, yourself, Andartes going into Albanian territory, and if so, how many?

WITNESS: Yes, about 20.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): At what height were you flying?

WITNESS: I started at about 2,000 feet, then dived down to about 100 feet.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did the enemy reply with anti-aircraft fire?

WITNESS: I did not see any.

MAJOR CHAPOY (Mexico): When you went back, had your friend who had piloted the damaged plane, already returned to the scene of operations?

WITNESS: Yes.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Did you draw anti-aircraft fire from anywhere across the border?

WITNESS: I did not notice any.

MAJOR CHAPOY (Mexico): Are you certain not to have flown over Albanian territory?

/WITNESS:

WITNESS: I am certain.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How long did it take the other officer after he had left you to return to the scene?

WITNESS: Some 20 minutes. When I was hurt in a later engagement, I returned to the base in three minutes; the planes are standing by in such cases with engines warmed up.

(Sitting closed at 2:20 p.m.)

Appendix 12

HEARING OF WITNESS: PAPA ANASTASIA

Held on 13 December, 9.45 a.m.

The first witness:

PAPA ANASTASIA, female, age 13

A Greek subject from LESNITSA, living at KRISOTHOULY

WITNESS, on being asked to relate her experience, states as follows:

Last Tuesday night, at 11.30, Albanians came to our village. They looted our house and took away my older sister and three other girls. They came along the road from KAKAVIA and returned the same way. I escaped and came here. They also took seven men from the village. They were Albanians, spoke Albanian, and wore Albanian clothes.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Do you fully understand the meaning of your story?

WITNESS: Yes, I do.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did the Albanians say anything which seemed of interest to you?

WITNESS: When they came, they grabbed us by the hair. They beat my mother. I escaped.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How do you know they were Albanian soldiers? Have you seen any before?

WITNESS: They wore Albanian uniforms marked with the Albanian star.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): What was the colour of their uniforms? Can you point out a similar colour in this room?

WITNESS: The high-ranking ones wore khaki. (witness points to the uniform worn by Brigadier Antoniou). The others were in Italian uniform.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): What colour?

WITNESS: There are no such suits here. They were Italian military uniforms.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Can you show us a similar colour in this room?

WITNESS: (Indicates the colour of the walls, a pale turquoise, but says that it was a darker shade).

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Which men wore the latter kind of uniform?

WITNESS: All the others, apart from the two in khaki, and they all spoke Albanian and sang only Albanian songs. This was in the schoolhouse.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Were you ever in Albania?

/WITNESS:

WITNESS: Yes. I came here in 1945.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Do you speak Albanian?

WITNESS: No, only Greek.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How long have you lived in Albania?

WITNESS: Until my fourteenth year. I have been here four years. I am now eighteen years of age.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): How do you account for the fact that you do not speak the Albanian language, after having resided several years in that country?

WITNESS: In our village there are only Greeks and only the Greek language is taught at school.

(Mr. DROSSOS, Greek Liaison Representative, explains that the Greek population in certain border villages, according to a frontier arrangement made after the First World War - as far as he remembers in 1923 - need not be taught in the Albanian language. Their schooling is paid for by funds of the Greek community.)

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Can you give us some further details about the star on the uniforms?

WITNESS: They had red stars on their caps.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did they all have that insignia?

WITNESS: Yes.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Did any of them have insignia on their sleeves?

WITNESS: It was not possible to see that. It was dark and I could only notice the stars on their caps.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): How many soldiers were there?

WITNESS: Many, perhaps 100. They also went to another village, MAVROPOULO, which they burned.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Is there anyone else here in IOANNINA who was with you there, or can you give the name of other people who were with you?

WITNESS: No.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Does that mean that you escaped alone?

WITNESS: Yes.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): What happened to the other people in your village?

WITNESS: They took seven men and four girls.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): Where are the others?

WITNESS:

WITNESS: The other men are serving in the MAY home guard.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): What about the other women?

WITNESS: They stayed in the village.

COLONEL ANTONIOU (Greece): Your mother, too?

WITNESS: Yes.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What is her age?

WITNESS: 46

COLONEL MILLER (France): Did any other girls in the village know about this event you have told us about?

WITNESS: The Albanians came in my home, took me and three girls from the other house and left.

Appendix 13

HEARING OF WITNESS, FRASOS, AHILLEFS

The second witness is FRASOS, AHILLEFS, age 33, born in ARGYROKASTRON, ALBANIA and living in IOANNINA, teacher by profession.

Witness states as follows:

When the Albanians attacked POGONIANI, I was in KHITSMATA and could not move.

COLONEL ANTONIOU (Greece): POGONIANI is a district, not a village.

WITNESS: I saw, with my own eyes, the fighting start between the Andartes and the Greeks at KASTANIANI and VALTISTA. The Greek army started to withdraw towards the Village of NEA KATOUNA. I saw Albanians on top of a hill firing at Greek troops to stop them and enable the partisans to take them prisoners, which they eventually did.

On Sunday, 30 November, I saw some fifteen Greek partisans coming from KATOUNA in Albanian territory entering Greece and going to NEA KATOUNA. From there they proceeded along the road toward KASTANIANI. On the evening of the same day, I saw a convoy of some fifty or sixty Albanian motor cars going from ARGYROKASTRON to the village of LONGO. I believe these cars were either carrying supplies for the partisans or taking their loot back to Albania.

On December 1st, when the Greek Air Force participated in the operations between KASTANITSA and AYIA MARINA, the Albanian frontier posts from PALEA KATOUNA to KOSOVITSA (Nos. 10 - 12) were firing on the Greek aircraft with machine guns.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): Have you seen this yourself?

WITNESS: Yes. I was about a kilometre and a half away.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What exactly did you see?

WITNESS: I saw Greek planes being fired at from hills not occupied by Greek Andartes.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What did you see?

WITNESS: I saw men who were exactly on the frontier line firing at the Greek planes.

COLONEL VERNIER (France): What kind of arms did they use?

WITNESS: I heard machine guns and mitrailleuses; the latter fire much farther.

COLONEL MILLER (United States of America): (Asks witness to indicate on the map and to show what he has seen. Witness so indicates and thereafter draws a sketch without the assistance of a proper map.)

ANNEX 16*

LETTER, DATED 6 DECEMBER 1947, FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE IN CONNECTION WITH
THE PETRITSI AND MAKRINITSA INCIDENTS
OF OCTOBER 1947

Salonica, 6 December 1947

I have the honour to forward to you, under separate cover, 10 copies in French and 10 copies in English of the testimony of the bandit Dimitrios PANAGOS (Y/101/E & F).

The testimony of PANAGOS, who has undergone military training at BOULKES camp in Yugoslavia, shows that, after the departure of the Subsidiary Group of the United Nations Commission of Enquiry, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria have continued to give every assistance to the bandits operating in Greece; and that, in particular, on the occasion of the attack on PETRITSI on 4 October 1947, and of the raids on MAKRINITSA on 6 and 10 October 1947, Bulgarian and Yugoslav territory was used with the knowledge and, indeed, the connivance of the Bulgarian and Yugoslav military personnel and authorities.

In bringing the above-mentioned facts to the notice of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans, I have the honour to inform you that the witness in question is at the disposal of UNSCOB to give verbal confirmation of his testimony and to supply any further information required.

(Signed) A. DALIEMOS

Liaison Representative, Minister
Plenipotentiary

Appendix: Testimony of witness DIMITRIOS PANAGOS (ALIAS) MENELAOS

* Document A/AC.16/13

APPENDIX

SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

(surrendered bandit)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: DIMITRIOS PANAGOS (alias MENELAOS)
Father's name: THEODOROS
Age: 24
Born: MITILINI
Occupation: Waiter
Date he gave himself up: 26 October 1947

I joined ELAS in March 1943. After the Varkiza agreement being in Yiannitsa, I was transported to Monastir (Bitolj) following an order of the 10th ELAS division. From Monastir, by way of Velles-Skoplje, we arrived at Tetovon where we were billeted in a school-building two kilometres outside Tetovon. We were about 1000 there.

In late April 1945 the camp of Tetovon as well as the camps of Koumanovon and Strumica were broken up and all of us were transported by train to Bulkes, in mid-June 1945. About 3000 of us concentrated at Bulkes.

In January 1946 a school of Higher Military Courses was established in Bulkes. Gerassimos taught in this school.

This school functioned until March 1946 when the School of Military Officials was established. I attended this latter School. Each course lasted 2 1/2 months. Training consisted in regular and guerrilla warfare. Gerassimos was the director of the school. This school functioned until January 1947 when it was broken up on account of the appointment of the Commission of Investigation of U.N.O.

A School of Hospital orderlies functioned in Bulkes as from 1 February to 31 March 1946, and re-opened in August 1947 and functioned until my departure from Bulkes on 17 September 1947.

The 3rd Yugoslav Army having their Headquarters at Novi-sat supplied with food the men of Bulkes until June 1946. Also the same Army supplied us with clothing of the Yugoslav Army as well as of UNRRA.

At Bulkes we were frequently visited by officers of the Yugoslav Army and by many Civil Officials. On 25 March 1946 when Zakhariadis, K.K.E. leader, visited us, we were also visited by the Minister of Public Education of Voivodina and by officers of the 3rd Yugoslav Army.

At Bulkes there was a hospital where bandits severely wounded in Greece, received treatment. Director of the hospital was Doctor Obrofski from Greece (Florina area).

/In October 1945,

In October 1945, Mikhalis Terzis took over direction of Bulkes camp. During all this period various groups were sent to Greece. Thus, on 17 September 1947, together with another 23, among whom were Paraskevas Glinos Provost Marshall of Thessaloniki during the period when Elas held sway, Thrassos from Thessaloniki, Charis from Khalkidiki, Thanassakis who was responsible for the group, Melakhrinos, Zaimis from Thessaloniki, Periklis from Kilkis area, departed from Bulkes and by way of Belgrad, Skoplje, Devdelija, on the morning of 19 September, we arrived at the Greek-Yugoslav border which we crossed at Kouka. We passed 20 metres far from the Yugoslav frontier post of that area and were seen by the Yugoslav frontier guards for the ground there is uncovered.

We entered Greek territory and proceeded to Belles Headquarters which is at a distance of hardly 30 metres from the frontier line. There we were armed and posted to companies. I was posted as indoctrinator of the 3rd Coy. of 561 Bn. of Kapetan Stathis. Military commander of the Coy was Kharis. The Coy's armament consisted of Bren, Sten, Panzer Faust (Anti-tank) and rifles of British and Italian make.

As Kapetan Stathis told me, the armament except the Panzer Faust came from Yugoslavia, whereas the Panzer Faust came from Czechoslovakia.

From 19 September to 2 October 1947, I remained at Belles Headquarters instructing the men of the 3rd Coy.

During this time Kapetan Stathis told me that our food supply for all through the winter was secured from Bulgaria. Also, the hospital orderly of Beles Headquarters named Nikos told me that the bandits who are severely wounded are evacuated to Yugoslavia. On the afternoon of 2 October, one bandit Bn. headed by PHOEBUS and 2 Coys headed by Stathis in which I was platoon-commander, left to attack Neon Petritsi. Kapetan Omiros, chief of Beles Headquarters was with us.

At first we marched on Greek territory, then we crossed into Bulgarian territory at point A seen by the Bulgar frontier guards. Kapetan Omiros first crossed Bulgarian territory to come to an agreement with the Bulgars.

We marched on Bulgarian territory passing in front of the Bulgarian frontier posts and re-entered Greek territory through point B and made our way to Istibei, where we arrived on the morning of 4 October. We then attacked Petritsi.

On our return we passed from Istibei, spent the day there and in the evening we crossed Bulgarian territory through point C, marched on Bulgarian territory passing in front of the Bulgarian frontier posts and crossed into Greek territory at the point A, seen by the men of the Bulgarian frontier post at that point. Two Bulgar soldiers led us as far as the frontier line.

/The two Coys

The two Coys in which I was platoon commander stayed there, while I with my platoon moved on to occupy the fortified points of Kale Bair. There I fell into an ambush of Greek Army troops and so I was obliged to enter Bulgarian territory seen by the men of the Bulgarian frontier post who took up battle positions. Half an hour later a Bulgarian Coy arrived there to reinforce me and took up positions along the frontier line.

When I entered Bulgarian territory, I hid in a small wood until 14.30 hours of 6 October 1947. While I was in the wood, I saw Paraskevas Glinos, dressed like a Bulgar officer to be among the men of the Bulgarian Company.

Kapetan Omiros himself as well as Paraskevas told me that the three bandits who were wounded in the ambush were evacuated to Bulgaria and another one who was considered missing, named Savas from Mikrodassos, was found with his light machine-gun inside a Bulgarian frontier post. Also, during that ambush, five of my men were taken prisoners by the Army troops.

That same evening my platoon crossed into Greek territory and united with Stathis' two Coys. Thence, the two Coys headed by Omiros proceeded to Makrinitza for conscription and seizing of foodstuffs. We conscripted 24 persons, seized foodstuffs and moved in the direction of Triethnes. On the evening of 7 October, we passed from Bulgarian territory, entered Yugoslav territory and marching on Yugoslav territory we arrived at Beles Headquarters on the morning of 8 October 1947.

On the evening of 9 October, I was detailed to proceed with my platoon again to Makrinitza for conscription and foodstuffs. I crossed into Yugoslav territory at point D and marched on Yugoslav territory as far as Triethnes. On my way I passed in front of Yugoslav frontier posts. I entered Greek territory from Triethnes, seen by the Yugoslav and Bulgar frontier guards and made my way to Makrinitza where we did not find but women and children. Therefore we only seized foodstuffs and went off. On our return, through Triethnes, I entered Bulgarian territory where I found the Bn. of Phoebus camped there and entertaining with the Bulgars.

Accordingly Phoebus' Bn. and my platoon marching on Yugoslav territory made our way to Beles Headquarters, where we arrived on 12 October.

On 22 October, the Bn. headed by Olimbos and Koliass to which I had been detached as platoon commander left for Kroussia. On the evening of 25 October, we entered Lahkanas where I hid myself in a barn and on the following day I gave myself up to the Military authorities of Lakhana.

The reason for which I gave myself up is that as a Greek I could not stand to be armed by Bulgars and Yugoslavs to fight Greeks.

Moreover, I could not stand the crimes and burnings of villages which I saw during the small period of time I served in Beles Headquarters.

The Greek original of this document had a map attached illustrating the course of the bandits' expedition.

ANNEX 17*

LETTER DATED 8 DECEMBER 1947 FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE CONCERNING CURRENT INCIDENTS
ON THE GREEK-ALBANIAN BORDER

I have the honour to inform you that for the last four days a battle has been in progress between armed bands and detachments of the Eighth Division of the Greek Army south of DELVINAKION, situated north-west of Ioannina, and approximately 15 kilometres from the Greek-Albanian frontier.

These armed bands, which were repulsed a few days ago from the northern slopes of Mount Kassidari, are now being attacked from the south and south-east. These bands are in close contact with Albanian territory whence they are being supplied with provisions and munitions.

This engagement is characteristic of the type of fighting between the armed bands and the Greek army in the frontier districts.

The armed bands, taking advantage of the withdrawal of the Greek frontier posts, have taken up positions backing on the frontier to ensure them free passage and unimpeded supplies by countries bordering on Greece.

In bringing these facts to your notice, I have the honour to inform you that my Government is of the opinion that it would be of great use if the Committee took urgent steps in order that the above-mentioned events should be established on the spot.

In order that the action taken by the Committee in this matter may have practical results, I would, Mr. Chairman, stress the urgent need for the implementation of such steps as you may see fit to take in this matter.

(Signed) A. Dalietos
Greek Liaison Representative
Minister plenipotentiary

ANNEX 18*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE CONCERNING THE SITUATION
ON THE NORTHERN FRONTIERS OF GREECE

Salonika, 8 December 1947

I have the honour to enclose a memorandum on the facts characterizing the situation created in the border regions of northern Greece as a result of the aid furnished to the armed bands by neighbouring countries.

From the very start of its work, the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans, now meeting in Salonika will have the opportunity of directly verifying the state of affairs prevailing in that region either by itself proceeding to the scene of activities, or by delegating a group of representatives.

The nature of the terrain, the positions occupied by the armed bands and the extent of the devastation caused in those regions, which have been so prosperous until recently, are of paramount interest. Investigation on the spot by the Committee will assist it both to establish the fact that aid furnished to these bands by the three neighbouring countries has never ceased, and also to draw the conclusions essential to the fulfilment of its mission.

I consider it my duty, for the above reasons, to draw the Committee's attention to the undeniable importance of studying this question and to the expediency of sending a group of representatives to inspect the localities used by the guerrillas as principal supply centres for arms and munitions.

The Committee will thus have the opportunity not only of satisfying itself as to the close contact existing between the armed bands, established near the frontier, and the neighbouring countries, but will also have proof of the continued armed aggression which represents a constant threat to the independence and integrity of Greece.

The maps annexed to the memorandum will enable the Committee to obtain a clearer idea of the facts set out therein.

AL. DALIETOS
Greek Liaison Representative
Minister Plenipotentiary

* Document A/AC.16/16.

Memorandum on the Situation on the Northern Frontiers of Greece,
Submitted by the Greek Liaison Representative
on 8 December 1947

SYSTEMATIC AID EXTENDED TO THE GUERRILLAS BY THE THREE NORTHERN NEIGHBOURS
OF GREECE, WHICH AID IS NOW BEING INTENSIFIED AND FURNISHED
ON A CONTINUOUSLY INCREASING SCALE

Introduction

The Greek frontier with Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania has now been abandoned throughout its entire length. Systematic attacks on the Greek frontier posts which commenced some eighteen months ago resulted in the extermination or capture of a large number of Greek soldiers manning the said frontier posts. In view of the hostile attitude manifested on numerous occasions by the forces manning the frontier posts of our neighbours, who are collaborating closely with the guerrillas, the Greek Military Command thought better to order the withdrawal of its force rather than undertake operations near the frontier to restore the situation in districts where Greek territory had been violated. This step was taken in order to prevent complications of more general nature which the Greek Government wished to avoid at all costs. Thus the Greek frontiers are, in fact, at the present time, not controlled by the Greek forces.

(1) The tactics employed by the guerrillas, attacking Greek forces near the frontier with the assistance of the neighbouring countries, have as their principal aim the carrying-out of an "open door" policy on Greek territory, namely to ensure unimpeded and continued foreign assistance and regular supplies. Thus we see that the three neighbouring countries, despite the facts established as a result of the investigations of the two previous United Nations Commissions, have not only not ceased to furnish aid to the guerrillas but are, on the contrary, providing aid more systematically and on a larger scale. The type of assistance now being given to the guerrillas by Albania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, and the co-operation of those countries with the guerrillas appears mainly in the following forms:

I. Collaboration and close contact between guerrilla leaders
and the neighbouring countries

The guerrilla forces and command are deployed in positions backing on the frontiers of the neighbouring countries. The map annexed to this memorandum covers the districts under the Third Greek Army Corps and illustrates the above by showing the sites of the main guerrilla centres, which are in immediate proximity of the frontier. The deployment of the rebel forces has been
/influenced

influenced by the following considerations:

- (a) an assured line of retreat
- (b) maintenance of close contact with forces manning frontier posts of the neighbouring countries in order to ensure supplies
- (c) ability to transport wounded to hospitals in the neighbouring countries
- (d) reinforcements which are received in the main from training camps operating in the neighbouring countries.

A visit by the Committee to, say, Lake Doiran, would give its members an opportunity of observing the close proximity to the frontier of the guerrilla command set up on Mount Beles-Kroussia.

II. Unchecked violation of the frontiers

The Albanian, Yugoslav and Bulgarian covering forces have received orders from their Governments to permit the rebels free entry into their territory.

On every occasion when the Greek Army has been able to carry out an encircling movement and large armed bands have been in danger of capture or annihilation, the latter have crossed the frontier unchecked and their retreat has been assisted by covering troops of the neighbouring countries on whose territory they have succeeded in finding refuge.

On numerous occasions, as verified by the United Nations Commission of Investigation and the Subsidiary Group, the guerrillas' retreat has been carried out under protection of fire from the covering forces of our neighbours, thus enabling the guerrillas to reach foreign territory unhindered.

The Greek Liaison Service can lay irrefutable evidence before the Committee proving that the neighbouring countries are entirely responsible and to blame.

III. Use made of the territory of the neighbouring countries

The guerrillas pursued by the Greek Army and seeking refuge in Albanian, Bulgarian or Yugoslav territory receive liberal hospitality and are aided by the military authorities of our northern neighbours. These bands, after resting, re-forming and receiving supplies of arms and provisions, use the territory of our neighbours to renew their attacks on Greek villages.

Units of the Greek Army, when occupying positions close to the frontier, have on numerous occasions been attacked from the rear by bands who in their movements have made free use of foreign territory and suddenly appeared in completely unexpected battle positions. This has provoked hurried counter-attacks by Greek troops and made it possible for bands in difficult positions to take advantage of surprise in order to cross the frontier, more often than not under covering fire from Albanian, Yugoslav and Bulgarian frontier posts.

/The annexed map

The annexed map shows the usual routes taken by bands coming from neighbouring countries during their raids on Greek territory. (Map A).

We are ready to bring further witnesses before the Committee to give evidence of the continued aid furnished by our neighbours.

IV. Supplies of Arms and Munitions

Albania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria are at present supplying on a lavish scale all the arms and munitions required by the bands operating in Greece.

Convoys of mules cross the Greek frontier carrying automatic arms of various types, munitions and explosives for delivery to these armed bands.

The guerrillas are able to use mines solely because of the large quantities supplied to them by the three northern neighbours.

The destruction of bridges and road and railway installations is due to explosives supplied to the guerrillas by the same States.

The principal supply centres for arms and munitions of all kinds are also marked on the annexed map. (Map B).

We should have welcomed it had our neighbours acceded to the Committee's request that it be permitted to visit these places.

V. Appearance of Artillery

In September last the bandits used artillery for the first time in the Mount Pindos region. According to information received, our northern neighbours will soon be providing aircraft as well.

VI. Provisions

Our northern neighbours supply the bandits with only meagre quantities of food, for the following reasons:

Firstly, because those countries do not themselves dispose of ample supplies. Secondly, if they supplied the bandits with sufficient provisions, this would damp their offensive and destructive fervour directed against Greek villages where they have to obtain food.

A visit to the frontier regions would enable the members of the Committee to appreciate the tragic existence of the local population who, seeing their property pillaged by the Markos bandits and terrorized by the crimes committed by the latter, stream towards the towns where they already number 400,000 and live as a charge on the national budget.

VII. Hospital Treatment of Bandits

All bandits wounded in engagements with the Greek Army are taken to the neighbouring countries where they are admitted to hospitals set up for that purpose.

Dozens of witnesses, some of whom had received treatment in various hospitals in Albania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, appeared before the two United Nations Commissions and confirmed these facts.

/The annexed map

The annexed map shows the sites of hospitals of this type now functioning in the neighbouring countries.

VIII. Bandit Reserves

Training camps for bandits continue to operate on the territory of our neighbours.

The annexed map shows the sites of these camps where the bandit cadres and crack reserves are trained. All the bandit higher cadres are recruited from inmates of the communist academy for partisans at Boulkes.

Deficiencies in the bandit ranks are mainly filled by the above method as regards cadres; secondary formations being established by forced recruitment.

The dispatch of such reserves, who cross the frontier in groups, still continues.

N.B. The maps referred to in this document will be placed at the disposal of the members of the Committee by the Secretariat.

ANNEX 19*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CHAIRMAN OF
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE REGARDING AN INCIDENT AT DERVENI, ON THE
GRECO-ALBANIAN FRONTIER, ON 29 OCTOBER 1947

Salonika, 10 December 1947

I have the honour to forward to you, under separate cover, twenty copies in French and twenty copies in English of the testimony given by seven eyewitnesses of the incident at DERVENI, on the Greco-Albanian frontier, on 29 October 1947, during which an armed band, pursued by units of the Greek Army, retreated to Albanian territory and opened fire on our troops from positions situated in Albanian territory and in the immediate proximity of the Albanian frontier post marked with a red arrow on the map annexed.

It is clear from all the evidence given that the Albanian Government, disregarding the recommendations of the United Nations General Assembly, has never ceased to furnish aid and protection to the bands operating in Greece and to allow them to use Albanian territory for their attacks on the Greek Army.

In bringing the foregoing to the notice of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans, I have the honour to inform you that the witnesses in question are at the disposal of UNSCOB to give verbal confirmation of their evidence and to provide any further information which may be required.

(Signed) A. DALIETOS
Greek Liaison Representative

ANNEX: Frontier Incident of DERVENI, including testimony of witnesses.

APPENDIX

FRONTIER INCIDENT AT DERVENI

29 October 1947

CONTENTS

- A. SUMMARY OF EVENTS
- B. STATEMENTS OF WITNESSES
 - 1. TZORTZAKIS CONSTANDINOS
 - 2. ZAHARAKIS APOSTOLOS
 - 3. STANGIKAS APOSTOLOS
 - 4. LAMBROS GEORGIOS
 - 5. CHRISTODOULOS MIHAIL
 - 6. KYRITSIS DIMITRIOS
 - 7. KAFETZIS CHRISTOS
- C. DIAGRAM (Not reproduced)

Frontier Incident at Derveni

on 29 October 1947

Summary of Events

1. On the morning of 29 October 1947 a detachment of the 43rd Greek Brigade was reconnoitring in the region of Lykomoron, Derveni.

Proceeding in a northerly direction, they suddenly came under fire from a German machine gun and individual weapons manned by a group of bandits established in positions near the village of Derveni.

2. Under pressure from the Greek detachment, the group of bandits dispersed and withdrew to the river Sarandaporos, and from there they crossed over the Skordili bridge into Albanian territory and took up positions on the hill facing Point A. From there the bandits fired on the Greek troops.

3. Simultaneously, another group, probably composed of bandits, located at triangulation mark 634 on the frontier, also fired on the Greek troops.

4. Our detachment did not return the fire coming from Albanian territory, ceased operations in order to avoid creating a frontier incident, and returned to base.

5. The group of bandits, under pressure from a detachment of Greek troops, entered Albanian territory freely and without any difficulty, took position there and began to fire on the Greek troops.

1. Witness' Statement

<u>Surname and First Name</u>	TZORTZAKIS KONSTANDINOS
<u>Father's Name</u>	NIKOLAOS
<u>Place of Origin</u>	ATHENS
<u>Age</u>	25 years
<u>Occupation</u>	Second Lieutenant

On 29 October 1947 I took part, at the head of my section, in the reconnoitring of the region of Lykomoron-Agios Nikolaos-Derveni. During this reconnoitring we reached the neighbourhood of the church of Agios Nikolaos without incident. When one group proceeding from Agios Nikolaos to Derveni, had passed the church, it came under fire from a machine gun and a small number of rifles firing from a position
/in the village

in the village of Derveni. Our detachments replied and other groups began to carry out a flanking manoeuvre to encircle the bandits, which resulted in their withdrawal. I personally followed up this retreat and saw them withdraw towards the river Sarandaporos. They crossed it by the Skordili bridge and then proceeded towards the N.W. in Albanian territory, taking up positions on the hills facing emplacement A. From there they began to fire on us with their rifles and machine guns.

Having observed that the fire was coming from Albanian territory, I ordered my detachments to cease fire; I explained to them that, since we were being fired on from Albanian territory, we must not provoke incidents with the Albanians and I showed my soldiers where the frontier ran.

At the same time as the above-mentioned fire, an automatic weapon fired from a position situated near triangulation mark 634.

After our detachments had been there for three hours, we received the order to withdraw to our base.

2. Witness' Statement

<u>Surname and First Name</u>	SZHARAKIS APOSTOLOS
<u>Father's Name</u>	IOANNIS
<u>Place of Origin</u>	METSOVON
<u>Age</u>	27
<u>Occupation</u>	Farmer (at present soldier)

On 29 October 1947, I was acting as squad leader. When we had reached the highest summit of Lykomoron, the Commander of my section, Second Lieutenant Tzortzakis, ordered me to take my squad towards the church of Agios Nikolaos, and to surround the church in case there were bandits inside. I carried out my mission, but there was nobody in the church; however, we noticed there the traces of a recently lighted fire, from which I concluded that the bandits could not be far away.

I pointed this out to my men, and while we were observing the village of Derveni, we came under fire from a German machine gun and automatic weapons in that village.

Under the fire of our detachments and in face of their manoeuvres,
/the bandits

the bandits had to withdraw towards the river Sarandaporos, where they crossed into Albanian territory; there they took up positions and opened fire on us, and at the same time another machine gun opened fire from the trigonometric mark on the frontier.

3. Witness' Statement

<u>Surname and First Name</u>	STANGIKAS APOSTOLOS
<u>Father's Name</u>	ADAMANDIOS
<u>Birthplace</u>	FCURKA KONITSA
<u>Age</u>	22 years
<u>Profession</u>	Cattle dealer (at present soldier)

On 29 October 1947, I and my section were carrying out a reconnaissance in the Lykomoron-Derveni region. When we had reached the highest summit of Lykomoron, where our movements could be seen from Albanian territory, I heard a short burst of fire from an automatic weapon at a considerable distance, coming from Albanian territory; it was probably some kind of signal. Being a cattle dealer, I have often crossed this region in the past and I know the frontier line well, so I knew that the firing came from Albanian territory.

Continuing our manoeuvre in order to complete our mission, we arrived at Agios Nikolaos, where we came under fire from a machine gun and several rifles in a position near the village of Derveni. The firing came from a group of bandits who were holding this position. When our detachments opened fire and carried out a turning movement, the bandits scattered and withdrew towards the river Sarandaporos and from there crossed into Albanian territory, where they took up positions and again opened fire on us. At the same time another automatic weapon opened fire on us from a position near the pyramid. I do not know if this fire came from bandits or from Albanians, but I know that it came from Albanian territory. We did not open fire, because our officers had ordered us not to fire into Albanian territory.

/4. Witness'

4. Witness' Statement

<u>Surname and First Name</u>	LAMBROS GEORGIOS
<u>Father's Name</u>	LEONIDAS
<u>Birthplace</u>	KAVASSILA (KONITSA)
<u>Age</u>	18 years
<u>Profession</u>	Agricultural worker

On Wednesday, 29 October, I was acting as guide to the military detachments carrying out a reconnaissance in the LYKOMORON-KONITSA region. While our detachments were descending from LYKOMORON towards AGIOS NIKOLAOS, they came under fire from a German machine gun and several rifles in the village of DERVENI.

Our detachments returned the fire and began to manoeuvre carefully; the bandits scattered and withdrew towards the river SARANDAPOROS which they crossed by the SKORDILI bridge, as the water was fairly high in the river; from there they inclined towards the left, crossed into Albanian territory, where they took up positions, and from thence fired on our detachments.

I know that this position lies in Albanian territory, because I am a native of KAVASSILA and I have often passed that way; I know where the frontier runs, because there are plenty of signs to mark the line, so I have no doubt that they had entered Albanian territory, took up position there and fired from there on our detachments.

Almost at the same time another machine gun opened fire on our detachments from another position.

Our troops did not return this fire, because I had heard the Captain order his men not to open fire in this direction, since the territory from which the fire was coming was Albanian, so they did not move; after a short time our detachment, and I with them, returned to our positions.

5. Witness' Statement

<u>Surname and First Name</u>	CHRISTODOULOS MIHAIL
<u>Father's Name</u>	DIMITRIOS
<u>Birthplace</u>	PAPINGON (ZAGORION)
<u>Age</u>	22 years
<u>Profession</u>	Private employee (at present soldier)

On 29 October 1947, I was with the command group of the 5th Company and took part in the LYKOMORON-DERVENI operation.

/When we

When we had reached the highest summit of LYKOMORON, I heard a small burst of fire at a great distance, coming from a point in Albanian territory, which, in my opinion, was a signal. Then we advanced towards AGIOS NIKOLAOS, where we came under fire from a place in the village of DERVENI. We replied to these shots and, after a manoeuvre by our detachments, the bandits fled towards the river SARANDAPOROS, crossed the SKORDILI bridge, turned to the left and entered Albanian territory, where they took up position and fired.

At the same time, another automatic weapon disclosed its presence in Albanian territory near the pyramid, but it was very far off.

6. Witness' Statement

<u>Surname and First Name</u>	KYRITSIS, DIMITRION
<u>Father's Name</u>	IOANNIS
<u>Birthplace</u>	KONITSA
<u>Age</u>	22 years
<u>Occupation</u>	Tailor (at present, soldier)

On 29 October 1947, I was taking part in reconnoitring the LYKOMORON-AGIOS NIKOLAOS-DERVENI region.

When we were approaching the church of AGIOS NIKOLAOS, we came under a machine gun as well as some rifle fire from bandits who were occupying positions in the village of DERVENI. Our detachments replied to the shots and, after a turning manoeuvre by us, the bandits withdrew towards the river SARANDAPOROS; from there they entered Albanian territory where they took position and fired again from a great distance. I can definitely certify that the position taken by them was in Albanian territory, since I know very well where the frontier line passes, being a native of Konitsa and having often been through that region on private business during the occupation.

Almost at the same time an automatic weapon fired from a point near the pyramid, in Albanian territory.

We did not return this fire, because we had been ordered not to fire into Albanian territory.

/7. Witness'

7. Witness' Statement

<u>Surname and First Name</u>	KAFETZIS, CHRISTOS
<u>Father's Name</u>	DIMITRIOS
<u>Birthplace</u>	ILIORAHI (KONITSA)
<u>Age</u>	26 years.
<u>Occupation</u>	Farmer

On 29 October 1947, I was acting as guide to the military detachments which were reconnoitring the LYKOMORON region.

When we had climbed to the highest summit, the advance detachments came under fire from an automatic weapon and a small number of rifles in the village of DERVENI. This fire came from a group of bandits there.

Our detachments fired on them, forcing them to withdraw towards the river SARANDAPOROS; from there they entered Albanian territory, took position and fired on our detachments from a relatively great distance.

I was struck by the fact that our troops did not fire in that direction. I asked one of the officers why they were not firing, while the bandits continued to fire. The reply was that we were not firing because the bandits were in Albanian territory and that we must not give the Albanians any pretext. I even remember that, from a height where there is a pyramid marking the frontier, another automatic weapon began to fire on our troops; I do not know whether it belonged to the bandits or to the Albanians.

The bandits, after withdrawing from the village of DERVENI, entered Albanian territory, where they took position and fired.

ANNEX 20*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE REGARDING AN INCIDENT ON THE GRECO-BULGARIAN FRONTIER ON
25 SEPTEMBER 1947.

Salonika, 20 December 1947

I have the honour to enclose under separate cover 25 copies in English and 15 copies in French of the testimonies by the eyewitnesses Nanos and Parissis regarding a frontier incident which took place during the night of 25-26 September 1947 (Doc. B.102/F & E).

From these testimonies it appears that the bandits carried off a flock and drove it into Bulgarian territory in the direction, in fact, of a Bulgarian frontier post which is in the neighbourhood of the place where the frontier was crossed, which fact leads one to suppose that the action took place with the connivance of the Bulgarians.

(Signed) A. DALIETOS

Greek Liaison Representative
Minister Plenipotentiary

Appendix: Testimonies by the witnesses NANOS and PARISSIS

* Document A/AC.16/30.

APPENDIX

B/102/E.

ABDUCTION OF A FLOCK OF SHEEP AND
ENTRY OF BANDITS INTO BULGARIAN
TERRITORY.

(25-26 September 1947).

Contents

1. NARRATIVE.
2. STATEMENTS OF WITNESSES.
 - (a) PARISSIS STAMATIOS
 - (b) STERGIOS NANOS
3. OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATION CARRIED OUT ON THE SPOT.
4. DIAGRAM (not reproduced)

/On the night

On the night of 25 to 26 September 1947 armed bandits seized a flock consisting of 950 sheep from ESKIJI (K309-211) which it then drove into Bulgarian territory. This flock of sheep was the property of the brothers THOMAS and NAOUM LEVENDIS, residents of SIDIROKASTRON (K 30-07).

The point at which the bandits crossed the Greek-Bulgarian frontier driving the flock before them is near the BISTRITSA, a small tributary of the STRUMA river.

It is in this region that the tributary forms the frontier between Greece and Bulgaria.

The circumstances under which this incident took place are exposed in the two statements of witnesses as well as in the report.

563 Bn which is responsible for the area in which this frontier incident took place, requested a meeting with the Bulgarian frontier post. The Bulgar officer, however, although asked to attend the meeting, refused to do so.

/STATEMENT OF

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: PARISSIS STAMATIOS
Father's name: CHRISTOS
Age: 20
Born: KAPNOFITON
Occupation: Shepherd

STERGIOS NANOS and I were the shepherds of the brothers THOMAS and NAOM LEVENDIS. We grazed the sheep between ESKIJI and PALEOS PROMAKHON (K 285-215).

On the night of 25/26 September 1947 about 15 armed men woke me and STERGIOS from our sleep and under threats ordered us to take the sheep and follow them. Confronted by such threats, we were forced to obey. After gathering together the 959 sheep, we all departed. They led us to the southern bank of the BISTRITSA river at the point where the stream back of KAPNOTOPOS (K 305-225) runs into the BISTRITSA.

When we reached this point about 10 of the armed bandits crossed the river and entered Bulgarian territory. The other bandits drove the sheep to the opposite bank of the river where the first ten bandits, who had previously crossed the river, collected them. In this manner practically all the sheep were driven across.

They then ordered us to cross to the opposite bank. As we had done so, we hid in the fields of maize. The other bandits remained on the Greek bank of the river until all the sheep had been driven across. They then also crossed the river.

Fortunately the bandits were occupied with gathering the sheep together and did not therefore notice our departure.

When the bandits had moved some distance from us, we waded again across the river which separates Greece from Bulgaria and regained Greek territory. In the morning we proceeded to the KOULA Frontier Post, where we reported the incident (K 29-23).

When on Greek territory the bandits feared lest they should be noticed. However, as soon as they had crossed the BISTRITSA and had set foot on Bulgarian territory they did not mind whether they were seen by the men of the Bulgarian frontier post. They lit cigarettes and talked loudly.

There is no doubt that the men of the Bulgarian Frontier Post, which lie opposite the village DAMASKINO, must have seen the bandits, for the bandits went in the direction of this post as soon as they had crossed the BISTRITSA.

Two days later I went to the spot at which the bandits had driven the sheep across the river with my employers, soldiers and gendarmes. The traces of their passage were still clear. Four drowned sheep were still there entangled in the reeds.

/STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: STERGIOS NANOS
Father's name: CONSTANTINE
Age: 15
Born: SIDIROKASTRON
Occupation: Shepherd

I am a shepherd and I graze the flocks of the brothers THOMAS and NAOUM LEVENDIS between ESKEJI and PALEOS PROMAKHON. On the night of September 25/26 1947, while PARISSIS STAMATHIOS, also a shepherd, and I were asleep, we were awakened by about 15 armed men. They ordered us to rise and get the sheep together. Some distance behind there were others, but I don't know their exact number. Under the threat of their arms we helped to get the flock together. The flock was then driven to the south bank of the BISTRITSA river at the point where the stream back of KAPNOTOPOS runs into the BISTRITSA. We were also led there.

When we reached this point 8 or 10 of the armed bandits crossed the river while the rest remained on Greek territory. The latter drove the sheep over to the opposite bank (on Bulgarian territory) where they were collected by the former. Except for about 50 all the sheep were thus driven over the river. The bandits then ordered us to cross the river too. When all the rest of the sheep had been driven across, the remaining bandits then followed.

As soon as we had crossed the river, we hid in the maize corn. The armed men occupied in collecting the sheep and driving them away, did not notice our absence.

When they were some distance away, we again crossed the river and regained Greek territory. In the morning we reported the incident to the KOULA Frontier Post (K 29-23).

There were 959 sheep to the flock. I recognized THEODOROS TSIOUTSIOUMANI (alias GALAMBAN), a former resident of KRASOKHORI (K 395-245) who now lives in Bulgaria, amongst the bandits.

From the attitude of the bandits, it was apparent that they did not care whether they were seen or not by the Bulgarian Frontier Posts, for from time they took us to the time we crossed to the opposite bank of the BISTRITSA their fear was evident. As soon as they had crossed into Bulgarian territory, however, they lit cigarettes and conversed in a loud manner. They must have been noticed by the Bulgarian frontier post which is opposite the village DAMASKINO (K 315-235). In fact they made in the direction of this post as soon as they had crossed into Bulgarian territory.

Two days later I, my employers, soldiers and gendarmes visited the area. The traces left behind by the passage of the bandits and the sheep could still be clearly seen. In fact the corpses of four sheep which had been drowned were still entangled in the branches in the river.

An officer with a camera took photographs of this spot.

/REPORT ON THE

REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATION CARRIED OUT
ON THE SPOT

At 10.00 hours on Saturday September 27, 1947, the undersigned Lt. VIDALIS Emm. (reserve), Coy commander of ANGISTRON, 2/LT KAROUZAKIS Emm., Intelligence Officer of 563 Inf. Bn, and W.O. PETRAKIS Apostolos held a meeting at KOULA (K 29-23) following order No.2268/26-9-47 of 563 Inf. Bn with the purpose of ascertaining the circumstances under which the sheep owned by the LEVENDI brothers were carried away on the night of September 25-26 and then driven into Bulgarian territory and of determining the exact point from which they were driven into Bulgarian territory.

1. We were led to the point from which the flock was driven into Bulgarian territory by Stergios NANOS and Stamatios PARISSIS, both shepherds.

The Bn gave permission that Thomas LEVENDI, Naoum LEVENDI, Stergios FRANTZARIS, George PARISSIS, and Constantinos NANOS, who were all owners of the sheep participate in the investigation.

2. We investigated the area as follows: We were led to the spot where the flock had been gathered in the evening to spend the night which is situated 500 metres N of ESKIJI (K 309-211).

From that point we followed the tracks left behind by the passage of the flock. The traces led northwards and followed the track leading to KAPNOTOPOS. At a point 200 m. from the village KAPNOTOPOS the traces followed another track which runs from Height 269 (K 311-218) to the public road of KOULA-ANGISTRON and reached the Southern bank of the BISTRITSA at the point of junction of the decline (K 305-235) and the BISTRITSA. The traces then continued on Bulgarian territory on the further side of the river towards the church there (K 301-243).

Due to the recent rains, the traces could be very clearly seen, particularly on Bulgarian territory where cultivated fields sown with maize exist. Traces here will last until the fields are again cultivated.

When we reached the BISTRITSA river we saw the corpses of three drowned sheep (one black and two white) which still lay entangled amongst the reeds. Photographs were taken of this area.

ANNEX 21*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE REGARDING INCIDENTS ON THE
GRECO-BULGARIAN FRONTIER DURING THE NIGHT OF
17-18 SEPTEMBER 1947

Subsequent to my letter sub. No.1243 of 20 December 1947, I have the honour to enclose under separate cover 25 copies in English and 15 copies in French of the testimonies by the witnesses Pissias, Miascos, Skaranguou and Siomos (Doc. B/106 F & E) which refer to a frontier incident which took place during the night of 17-18 September 1947.

These testimonies illustrate yet another case in which the bandits not only entered Bulgarian territory under the eyes of the Bulgarian frontier posts, but also one in which the action took place with the connivance and, indeed, the assistance of the local military and civil authorities of that country.

(Signed) A. DALIETOS
Greek Liaison Representative
Minister Plenipotentiary

Appendix: Testimonies by the witnesses Pissias, Miascos, Skaranguou and Siomos.

* Document A/AC.16/31.

APPENDIX

B/106/E.

FRONTIER INCIDENT OF KRASOKHORION

17-18 September 1947

CONTENTS

1. NARRATIVE.
2. SWORN STATEMENT OF:
 - (a) EVANGELOS PISSIAS
 - (b) ANTONIOS MIASKOS
 - (c) MARIA SKARAGOU
 - (d) IOANNIS SIOMOS
3. DIAGRAM.

On September 17, 1947 all the inhabitants of the village KRASOKHORION were driven into Bulgarian territory by Greek bandits. Men of the Bulgarian militia as well as the men of the Bulgarian frontier post located opposite, also participated.

All persons able to bear arms were conscripted by the bandits by force in the presence of the men of the Bulgarian frontier post. The others were taken to the interior of Bulgaria following arrangements made by both civil and military frontier authorities of Bulgaria.

A total of about 70 Greek families were taken into Bulgaria. Each of these families was forced to take with it 70 to 100 okas of wheat. Thus in all about 6000 okas were carried by them. Only ten families remained on Greek territory and this is due to the fact that they had taken refuge in the village ANGISTRON (K 35-22) prior to the raid.

The families were furthermore forced to take with them small and large animals, these amounted to 2000 sheep and goats, 200 oxen, and 65 donkeys and mules.

The above incident which was planned by the Bulgarian authorities with the purpose of internal political exploitation and probably creating an international hubub aimed at trying to prove that the inhabitants of KRASOKHORION were forced to abandon Greek territory as a result of the existing "fascist" regime in Greece.

/1. SWORN STATEMENT

1. SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Evangelos PISSIAS
Father's name: Sotirios
Born: KRASOKHORION
Age: 41
Occupation: Farmer

On 17 September 1947 just before sunset, Greek bandits and Bulgarian militia surrounded our village. The Bulgarians remained in ambush outside the village while the Greek bandits entered the village. Threatened by them the inhabitants were forced to abandon the village and enter Bulgarian territory as the bandits said that they would set the village on fire.

They surrounded the village from all sides leaving a narrow passage leading towards Bulgarian territory which ran past the Bulgarian frontier post.

I and my fellow villager STAVROS SOLENGOS hid outside the village. From my hiding place I heard the women and children crying while they were being pushed about and insulted by the bandits who were gathering them behind the Bulgarian frontier post located opposite our village.

I had taken my wife and my three children to ANGISTRON (K 35-22). But my fourth child, STYLIANTI, aged 13, had remained in the village for she happened to be keeping watch on the sheep and was thus also captured in the village.

Disregarding every danger I secretly entered the village and began to look for my child, but it had been taken into Bulgaria.

As a result of the raid great confusion reigned in the village. Others cried, others loaded whatever food or clothing they could onto animals and led them through the formed corridor towards Bulgarian territory. Others again returned to collect whatever more they could. The Bulgarian soldiers of the Bulgarian frontier post opposite stood in front of their frontier post and looked upon all this confusion laughing.

I took advantage of the situation and pretended that I too was carrying things into Bulgaria. I picked up and carried the washing tub of THEODOROS GALABAN, who is now a bandit, and walked across to Bulgaria. There I found my child whom I placed on a mule and returned to the village. I managed to get away from the village through a ravine and proceeded to ANGISTRON where I arrived at two in the morning together with my child.

/Bulgarian military

Bulgarian military and civil authorities were present when all the above took place. For, as I have already mentioned above, men of the Bulgarian militia had come to our village and Bulgarian soldiers of the Bulgarian frontier post participated by supervising the people who were being gathered behind the outpost. Furthermore use was made of trucks belonging to the Bulgarian army.

Communal presidents were ordered to make arrangements for housing and caring for them.

2. SWORN STATEMENT OF WITNESS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: ANTONIOS MIASKOS
Father's name: VASSILIOS
Born: SERRAI
Age: 17
Occupation: Farmer

At 20.00 hours on 17 September 1947, about 200 bandits came and surrounded my village KRASOKHORION (K 395-245). They immediately forced the inhabitants to gather together and to prepare their luggage and animals as they were to be taken into Bulgaria. Whoever dared to escape or to raise any opposition would be killed.

The bandits drove off all the families of my village, including women and children. There were 70 families in all. With them they took 2000 goats and sheep, 200 oxen, and 65 donkeys and mules. From each family they collected one load of wheat thus totalling about 6000 okas.

At approximately 03.00 hours we were made to start off and were led across the frontier into Bulgaria. We marched for about one hour inside Bulgarian territory and finally came to a spot outside the Bulgarian village LEHOVO (K 39-26). They left us there under the guard of the Bulgar soldiers of the Bulgarian frontier post.

After we had been led into Bulgaria as I have already mentioned, we were made to halt. It was still dark and I managed to make my escape through the tobacco plantations and reach our village while it was still dark. From there I proceeded to the ANGISTRON Coy and reported to the Captain there.

While driving us into Bulgaria the Bulgars told our children that they were to join them in the mountains and fight "fascism".

3. SWORN STATEMENT OF WITNESS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: MARIA SKARANGOU
Father's name: Sotirios LAZIS
Born: KRASOKHORION
Age: 21
Occupation: Housewife

On the night of 17-18 September 1947, bandits came to our village and under the threat of their arms gathered all my fellow villagers and drove us into Bulgaria.

The soldiers of the Bulgarian frontier post located opposite our village saw us and the bandits cross into Bulgaria, but were not in the least interested.

As soon as they had collected us all on Bulgarian territory, they set aside all males ranging from 18 to 40 years of age and took them with them. They also took my husband. Those conscripted numbered 39 or 40. Most of them had no desire to follow the bandits but were forced to do so. They told the rest of us, that is the old men and the women and children, to proceed to the Bulgarian village LEHOVO. When the bandits had left, we tried to return to our village but the Bulgarian soldiers did not allow us to do so.

We then went to LEHOVO (K 39-26) where we remained for one day. The president of the village, who had come to the place where the bandits had left us, accompanied us to LEHOVO.

In the evening we were told we had to proceed to KATUNISI (K 35-30) where we arrived at daybreak. Bulgarian soldiers took charge of us there and we were then taken to MARIKOSTENOVO (K 26-29) by car. We stayed there one day.

The next day we were taken to GARA BILITSA by train. Presidents of the neighbouring villages came and each took charge of five or six families. I know that inhabitants of our village were established in the villages MIKROVO, BILITSA, YELESHNITSA (K 09-23) and in two other villages of which I cannot remember the names.

I, my father-in-law, my mother-in-law and a daughter of my mother-in-law went to the village YELESHNITSA.

Three days later the president of the village told us that if we had any money or other valuables at our village we were to return and collect them. Together with my cousin IOANNIS SIOMOS I returned to KRASOKHORION to collect wheat and clothing. However, as soon as we returned we encountered Greek soldiers who brought us here.

/As soon

As soon as we went to our village, we saw that our wheat and our other possessions had been looted. As no other fellow villager lives near there, and as the Bulgarian frontier post is very close undoubtedly the Bulgars must have stolen our possessions. My fellow villagers wish to leave and return to Greece, but they are not allowed to do so.

4. SWORN STATEMENT OF WITNESS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: IOANNIS SIOMOS
Father's name: THEODOSSIOS
Born: KRASOKHORION
Age: 15

On the night of 17-18 September 1947 bandits came to our village and surrounded it. We hid in the barns and in other places. However, they searched everywhere and found us all. They gathered us at the Bulgarian Frontier Post which is situated opposite our village. We abandoned our belongings and our food there and only took what we could each carry. Those who owned animals loaded them with what they could.

At the Bulgarian frontier post in the presence of the Bulgarian soldiers the bandits set apart all the males from 18 to 40 years of age and took them with them. My father was also amongst them. They told the rest of us that is the old men, the women and children, to go to LEHOVO. They told us that they were going to set fire to the village as there was to be war. We were thus forced to go from there to the Bulgarian village LEHOVO, as the Bulgars did not permit us to return to our village. We reached LEHOVO at daybreak.

We spent the day (it was Friday) at LEHOVO. At about midnight the president of the village took us to KATUNISI (K 35-30) which we reached at daybreak of Saturday.

Cars with Bulgar soldiers as drivers took us to the baths at MARIKOSTENOVO (K 26-29) where we spent the day. We were taken by train to the railway station of BILITSA. Five or six families were sent to each of the neighbouring villages. I, my mother and my four smaller brothers and sisters established ourselves at the village YELESHNITSA (K 09-23). A few days later the president of the village told us that one person from each family was to return to our village and collect our belongings, we had abandoned there.

I and my cousin MARIA SKARANGOI returned to the village together. We did not find anything, for the Bulgars had stolen everything. Meanwhile a section of the Coy from ANGISTRON (K 35-22) arrived and led us there.

ANNEX 22*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE REGARDING AN INCIDENT ON THE GRECO-BULGARIAN FRONTIER
DURING THE NIGHT OF 10-11 OCTOBER 1947

Salonika, 22 December 1947

Subsequent to my letters sub. Nos. 1243 and 1244 of 20 and 21 December, I have the honour to enclose 25 copies in English and 15 copies in French of the testimonies by the eyewitnesses Arghiriadis, Sotiriadis, Stavridis and Adamakis (Doc. B/108 F & E) regarding the incident which took place near the Greco-Bulgarian frontier during the night of 10-11 October 1947,

These testimonies, like those which I have had the honour to submit to you with my preceding letters, are characteristic of the fact that in their operations on the frontier the bandits are continually receiving support from Bulgarian soldiers, who give them all possible assistance so as to facilitate in every way the operation undertaken by the bandits.

In submitting these facts, which are affirmed by numerous witnesses, to the judgment of the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans, I trust that the Committee will see fit to draw from them the necessary conclusions.

(Signed) A. DALIETOS

Greek Liaison Representative

Appendix: Testimonies by the witnesses Arghiriadis, Sotiriadis, Stavridis and Adamakis.

Note: See documents A/AC.16/30 and 31 (Annexes 20 and 21) for further data on same incident.

FRONTIER INCIDENT OF FTELIA
(10-11 October 1947)

Contents

1. NARRATIVE
2. SWORN STATEMENTS OF:
 - (a) Roussis ARGIRIADIS
 - (b) Ioannis SOTIRIADIS
 - (c) Stavros STAVRIDIS
 - (d) Dimitrios ADAMAKIS
3. DIAGRAM

On the night of 10-11 October 1947 at approximately 23.00 hours, a bandit formation comprised of about 150 bandits, coming from Bulgarian territory raided and looted the village FTELIA (see diagram).

The plunder were loaded on 17 carts driven by oxen belonging to inhabitants of the village and were carried into Bulgarian territory.

A Bulgarian frontier post was informed by phone to urgently send 20 military carts driven by an equal number of Bulgarian soldiers for the collection and transport of the plunder to the interior of the Bulgarian territory.

/SWORN STATEMENT

1. SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Roussis ARCHIRIADIS
Father's name: Dimos
Born: GROUMKIOI
Occupation: Grocer

On 10 October 1947 at approximately 22.00 hours bandits surrounded our village. They then entered it and seized food, clothing etc.

In particular, from me they seized 900 okas of wheat, 4 kilogrammes of tobacco, 25 okas of soap, about 12 okas of alcohol, 350 okas of salt, 30 pairs of shoes, a new coverlet, 2 tins of sesame-oil and many other things. All these things were found in my grocery.

I do not know the exact number of the bandits, I think, however, that they were about 150.

The food, the clothing and all the other things were accumulated and loaded on 17 carts which were seized from villagers and at approximately 03.00 hours were carried into Bulgarian territory.

I am sure that the bandits came from Bulgarian territory.

At about 07.00 hours of October 11, 1947, they brought the carts back and left them come alone.

After their departure for Bulgaria the carts followed the route FTETLIA square - Railway line - Position KAGAL (On the frontier) - Position KARA-IVAN-BAKHTSE-MEGALO NISSAKI in EVROS river (see diagram).

2. SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Ioannis SOTIRIADIS
Father's Name: Zakharias
Age: 55
Born: GROUMKIOI
Occupation: Grocer

On the night of 10-11 October 1947, as usual, together with other fellow villagers of mine, given that there is no Army detachment to protect our village and as many times, we have been robbed and threatened by bandits, we were outside our village. On the night I mentioned above, the bandits came and surrounded our village. Accordingly some of them entered and began looting it.

/In particular

In particular from me they seized 750 okas of wheat, 200 okas of maize, 15 okas of soap, 5 okas of sugar, 4 okas of coffee, 30 okas of brandy, 10 okas of red pepper, 8 kilogrammes of clothing dye, 16 okas of wool, 4 pairs of trousers, 35 okas of cheese and various other things. All these things were found in my grocery.

I do not know how many bandits entered our village. 12 bandits came to my house. I calculate that their total number was 150. The bandits gathered 17 carts loaded them with the food and the other things they seized from the peasants and at 03.00 they drove them into Bulgarian territory.

I am absolutely sure that the bandits came from Bulgaria.

On the way to Bulgaria the carts followed the route FTIELIA square-railway line (crossing with a public road) - position KAGAL MILOS (on the frontier line) MEGALO NISSAKI (KARA IVAN BAKHTSE) in EVROS river.

On the following morning the bandits drove the carts as far as the frontier line and left them there.

3. SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Stavros STAVRIDIS
Father's name: Panayiotis
Age: 35
Born: OROUMKIOI
Occupation: Grocer

On the night of 10-11 October 1947, bandits surrounded our village FTIELIA. Some groups penetrated the village and began seizing various items, such as clothing, food or whatever else they could get hold of.

They seized the following from me: 600 okas of wheat, a tin of fat, a drum of oil, 200 okas of rye, 10 okas of soap, 45 okas of sugar, 5 blankets, 6 coverlets, the dowery of my daughters and other articles of a smaller value. They found these things in my home for I own a small shop in the village.

I do not know how many bandits there were. I estimated them to be about 150. All the above were loaded on 17 carts of the village, which at 03.00 hours proceeded towards Bulgaria. They followed the route FTIELIA - Railway line-KAGAL MILOS-MEGALO NISSAKI in the EVROS river.

The following morning we found the carts abandoned near the frontier.

SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Dimitrios ADAMAKIS
Age: 54
Born: MAKRA GEFIRA (East Thrace)
Occupation: Employee of State Wireless Telephone and Telegraph Company. Now a farmer.

As I have been an employee in the Telephone State service for the last 18 years, I carry out the duties of telephone operator in the village ORMENION where I live.

At about 02.00 hours of 11 October 1947 I overheard a telephone conversation between the Bulgarian frontier posts: one Bulgarian frontier post was telephoning that 20 military vehicles accompanied by an equal number of Bulgar soldiers be urgently dispatched to collect the food, the clothing and all plunder the bandits had carried into Bulgarian territory. All this had to take place in the shortest possible time, for the bandits were to concentrate in the interior of the GENERATOVO region. From the above I immediately gathered that bandits had again plundered a Greek village.

At about 06.00 hours together with other fellow-villagers of ours we proceeded to the railway line in the FTELIA region. There we met villagers from FTELIA who told us that the night before (i.e. 10 October 1947) bandits had come from Bulgaria to FTELIA, had seized food and clothing, and had loaded 17 carts which they then drove into Bulgarian territory. I then understood why the Bulgarians had asked that 20 vehicles be immediately sent.

I saw the cart ruts left behind by the passage of carts.

The road led from FTELIA. It passed by the point where the railway line and the road cross and then led to KAGAL (on the frontier); it then continued towards KARA-IVAN-BACHTSE and thence to the interior of Bulgaria.

Any telephone operator having knowledge of Bulgarian can follow a telephone conversation. I do not know how this happens but as a telephone operator I believe this is due to induction.

ANNEX 23*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE REGARDING EVENTS ON THE GRECO-YUGOSLAV FRONTIER

Salonika, 22 December 1947

I have the honour to enclose under separate cover 25 copies in English and 15 copies in French of the testimony by the witness Constantin Safis (Y/103/E & F), which tells how the bandits cross freely into Yugoslav territory and are supplied with arms.

This witness, equally with all others whom I have had the honour to call in evidence to date, is at the disposal of UNSCOB.

(Signed) A. DALIETOS
Greek Liaison Representative
Minister Plenipotentiary

Appendix: Testimony by the witness SAFIS.

APPENDIX

Y/103/E.

SWORN STATEMENT OF WITNESS
(surrendered bandit)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: SAFIS KONSTANTINOS
Father's name: EFSTRATIOS
Born: NEA MADITOS (P 40-38)
Age: 21
Occupation: Workman

I was conscripted by force at midnight of September 23, 1947 in my village NEA MADITOS by the band of Kapetan ZEZAS.

On 22 October 1947, 74 of us bandits left KHALKIDIKI for BELLES where we were to collect weapons.

On 26 October (feast day of Aghios DIMITRIOS) we were at NIGRITA (P 37-70). We left NIGRITA three days later. On the fifth morning from our departure from the NIGRITA region we reached the summer Bulgarian frontier posts which were then deserted. We spent the day there and set off again in the evening. We passed by a Bulgarian winter frontier post where we left about 40 wounded bandits, whom we had carried with us from KHALKIDIKI-NIGRITA-KROUSSIA. The Bulgars immediately cared for these wounded bandits.

We advanced and reached a Yugoslav frontier post. The Yugoslav guard did not permit us to pass in front of the frontier post which was located right on the public road. Instead he told us to pass behind the frontier post and then get to the public road. He said to us: "That is the way partisans always go by".

We continued marching along the public road. At dawn we met a YIAFKA of bandits on Yugoslav territory. We spoke to the YIAFKA members and then continued on our way. After awhile we came across a second Yugoslav frontier post; in fact the men of this post saw us as we passed by. Two bandits who had dropped behind met a Yugoslav carrying bread to the frontier post. This Yugoslav gave them each half a loaf of bread and told them that they could even go to the frontier post for a meal if they wished to do so.

We reached the BELLES Headquarters at noon. Kapetan MILTIADIS woke us up one night seven or eight days later and told us to rise for we had work to do.

Two companies with MILTIADIS at the head of us set off. They did not tell us where we were going. After marching for 15 minutes we halted at a

/certain spot.

certain spot. Weapons, stayers, machine guns and cases of ammunition were being carried here from YUGOSLAV territory along the public road. The spot where we were was not more than 50 metres from the public road from which they carried weapons and ammunition. We carried all these to the hut.

Two days later they gave us each one pair of trousers. Others were given great coats. These are the trousers I am wearing.

A week later we departed from KHALKIDIKI carrying on our shoulders the ammunition, the Stayer rifles and machine guns. We had also loaded our mules with Panzer-Faust (anti-tank weapon), with PIATS, with ammunition and with about one hundred rifles. All the above were destined for KHALKIDIKI. This in fact was the object of our mission.

On 26 November, while we were by-passing STAVROS (P 52-42) and were moving in the direction of the mountains in KHALKIDIKI, I hid myself and on the following day, at noon, I gave myself up to the Gendarmerie at STAVROS.

ANNEX 24*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CHAIRMAN
OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE CONCERNING AN ATTACK
ON A TRAIN IN THE MANDRAKI DISTRICT

Salonika, 22 December 1947

I have the honour to submit fifteen copies in French and twenty-five copies in English of the documents relating to the attack on a train in the Mandraki district (document B/104/E & F), for which Bulgarian territory was used by the bandits as an operational base and refuge.

(signed) A. Dalietos
Liaison Representative
of the Royal Hellenic Government

Appendix: Documents relating to the attack on a train in the Mandraki district.

APPENDIX

B/104/E

FRONTIER INCIDENT OF MANDRAKI
(25-30 October 1947)

Contents

1. NARRATIVE
 2. SWORN STATEMENTS OF:
 - (a) Iraklis MOISSIS
 - (b) Sokratis TAKOS
 - (c) Konstantinos IOAKIMIDHIS
 - (d) Dimitrios ZAKHARIAS
 3. DIAGRAM (not reproduced).
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On 25 October 1947 a bandit formation of BELLES HQ, comprised of about 150 men and women, headed by PHOEBUS, moved from BELLES HQ with the purpose of attacking the train at MANDRAKI (K 09-11).

In order to conceal its movement, the band crossed into Bulgarian territory at TRIETHNES (J 93-21) on the evening of 25 October 1947.

The band remained in No. 1, 2 and 3 Bulgarian summer frontier posts all day of 26 October and on the morning of 27 October it moved towards the Bulgarian frontier post standing opposite ROUPESKO which it by-passed, applauded by the Bulgar officers and soldiers of the post.

Thence, the band moved to a YIAFKA of bandits located inside Bulgarian territory where the bandits had a meal. Accordingly the band departed, crossed into Greek territory, and on the morning of 28 October, it attacked the train at MANDRAKI causing serious damages to the locomotive. There were also casualties.

After the attack against the train, the bandits took flight and that same night they crossed into Bulgarian territory, passed from the Bulgarian frontier post standing opposite ROUPESKO, where they handed over 5 wounded bandits, whom they carried along from MANDRAKI and made their way to the a/m YIAFKA where they spent the night.

Accordingly via Bulgarian and Yugoslav territory the band arrived on the morning of 30 October 1947 at BELLES HQ.

1. SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS
(surrendered bandit)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: IRAKLIS MOISSIS
Father's name: MIKHAIL
Born: MAKRINITSA
Age: 16

I was forcibly conscripted by the band headed by Kapetan THEODOROS on 11 October 1947 and was taken to a spot near TRIETHNES where we spent the day. Our Kapetans crossed twice into Bulgarian territory and talked to the Bulgar guards. In the afternoon we departed for BELLES HQ via Yugoslav territory.

On 25 October, at noon, Kapetan OMIROS gathered us and told us that we would go on a mission. We then were supplied with foodstuffs. We departed 150 in all including 40 women.

We arrived at TRIETHNES, crossed into Bulgarian territory, moved on the public road and were sheltered in No. 1, 2 and 3 Bulgarian summer posts. I remained in the first post together with PHOEBUS. We spent the day of 26 October in that post.

On the morning of the following day we departed and in the afternoon we by-passed the Bulgarian frontier post opposite ROUPESKO. While we were by-passing the post the Bulgars applauded us and PHOEBUS called at the post and talked to the Bulgars.

One kilometre far from this Bulgarian post inside Bulgarian territory there are 3 huts where there is a bandit YIAFKA. 15 bandits were waiting for us there and had prepared a meal.

We thence departed and at 04.00 hours of the following day we were on Greek territory near the railway line. They left us at a spot and the others moved on. There I was informed that they were going to attack and rob the train. Some time later, I heard explosions of mortar and PIAT shells and before long I saw the bandits running towards us and shouting that Army troops were coming.

We went off and arrived at a spot north of FILIRA. There I managed to escape.

2. SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS
(surrendered bandit)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: SOKRATIS TAKOS
 Father's name: KHRISTOS
 Born: LIVADHI (KHALKIDIKI area)
 Age: 15

I was conscripted on 25 August 1947 and was taken to BELLES HQ. During my stay at BELLES, many a times I saw our Kapetans entering and coming out freely from YUGOSLAV territory and talking to the YUGOSLAV frontier guards.

On 25 October, Kapetan OMIROS gathered us and told us that we would go on a serious mission and we should show ourselves brave.

About 150 of us departed, arrived at TRILETHNES, crossed into Bulgarian territory and took shelter in the 3 Bulgarian summer frontier posts to protect ourselves from the bitter cold. We spent the day in the posts. I remained in No. 1 post. On the following day, we departed and marching always on Bulgarian territory, we by-passed the Bulgarian frontier post facing ROUPESKO.

When we were by-passing the Bulgarian frontier post, the Bulgars applauded us. One kilometre far from the Bulgarian frontier post there are 3 huts, where there is a YIAFKA of 15 bandits. These bandits were waiting for us and had prepared a meal.

After an hour we departed and at 04.00 hours of the next morning, we were on Greek territory near the railway line. Some of us, including myself, remained somewhere in the vicinity, while the rest moved on. After some time I heard explosions of mortar and PIAT shells. I then perceived that they had attacked the train. About half an hour later, I saw the bandits that had attacked the train running towards us and shouting that we should leave, for Greek Army troops were coming.

We went off and arrived at the village FILIRA (J 06-14) where I managed to make my escape.

3. SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS
(surrendered bandit)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: KONSTANTINOS IOAKIMIDHIS
Father's name: PAVLOS
Born: MAKRINITSA
Age: 20

I was forcibly conscripted on 6 October 1947 and was taken to BELLES HQ, where I was trained.

On 25 October, we departed from the HQ about 150 persons and arrived at TRIETHNES. We thence crossed into Bulgarian territory and marched on the public road. We arrived at No. 1 Bulgarian frontier post standing just north of KATO PORROIA (J 99-14) where we lit a fire to warm ourselves. At daybreak some of us moved to No. 3 summer post standing north of ANO PORROIA (K 01-15), while the rest remained in No. 1 post. We remained in No. 3 Bulgarian frontier post until Monday morning when I and ANTONIS SERETIS departed for No. 1 post where our platoon and chiefs were, to ask what was to be done.

In the meantime I agreed with ANTONIS to try and make our escape, for we saw that they aimed at exterminating the Greeks.

Thus, making use of the opportunity of going to No. 1 post and making sure that no one could see us, we moved on, avoiding the post where the other bandits were and then made our way into Greek territory.

After 12 hours of hardships, we arrived at MAKRINITSA, and I accordingly went and gave myself up to the Gendarmerie at PORROIA.

4. SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS
(surrendered bandit)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: DIMITRIOS ZAKHARIAS
Father's name: KONSTANTINOS
Born: MEGALI VRISSI (0 78-85)
Age: 19
Occupation: Cattle-breeder

I was forcibly conscripted by bandits on the evening of 8 October 1947 in my village and was led north of KORONA (J 69-03), where we stayed two days.

On the evening of 10 October we departed for BELLES HQ where we arrived after 3 days. I was issued with a rifle and rounds after 4 days.

On 25 October, at noon, 2 bandits companies and the exemplary EPON of BELLES HQ (EPON - National Panhellenic Youth Organization) headed by Kapetan PHOEBUS departed from BELLES HQ. At night we crossed into Bulgarian territory at TRIETHNES, took the public road on Bulgarian territory and arrive at No. 1 Bulgarian summer frontier post where we took shelter to protect ourselves from the cold. As the post could not take us all, half of us moved to No. 2 Bulgarian post. I stayed in No. 1 post.

We spent the day and the night of 26 October in this post, and in the morning we departed and moved along the public road. In the afternoon we passed in front of a Bulgarian frontier post where there were Bulgar soldiers who saw us when we passed by. Our Kapetans called at the post and talked to the Bulgar guards. In a quarter of an hour we arrived at a YIAFKA of bandits where we had a meal.

In the evening we departed from the YIAFKA, crossed into Greek territory during the night and in the morning we were north of the public road running north of MANDRAKI (K 09-11).

To us the members of EPON they said to stay there, whereas the others moved on. Before long we heard the train passing and simultaneously I heard explosions of Panzer Faust (anti-tank weapon) and of PIAT shells. I also saw the train which had stopped for it had been hit.

In a quarter of an hour the bandits who had attacked the train came running and shouting: "Let's go away, for Greek Army troops are coming".

We took flight pursued up to a certain point by the Army troops. Later, we sat down to rest. Before long we left and at night we arrived at the Bulgarian frontier post I mentioned above, where there were soldiers and made for the YIAFKA, whence we had departed the evening before.

/From MANDRAKI

From MANDRAKI we carried along with us 5 wounded bandits (one girl, 2 members of EPON, one named GEORGIOS PAPADOPOULOS from my village and another from MAKRINITSA, our platoon-commander named APOSTOLOS and another bandit).

All these wounded bandits, as the political instructor of our platoon named SAKIS told us at the YIAFKA, were handed over to the Bulgars at the before-mentioned Bulgarian frontier post. Indeed I saw our political instructor SAKIS handing over to the Bulgarian post GEORGIOS PAPADOPOULOS who was wounded in the face and so could walk. Moreover, our political instructor told us that a car had taken the wounded from the post and were in a good place.

That night we slept in the YIAFKA and on the following day at noon, we departed for the BELLES HQ. We again passed from the Bulgarian frontier post where there were Bulgar soldiers, marched on the Bulgarian road as far as TRIETHNES, crossed into YUGOSLAV territory passing in front of the YUGOSLAV frontier post under the noses of the Yugoslav frontier guards, marched for approximately 2 hours on Yugoslav territory and on the following morning we arrived at BELLES HQ.

I remained at BELLES HQ up to 18 November when together with the bandit formations of KHALKIDIKI and NIGRITA (P 37-70) who had come to BELLES HQ and collected arms, we departed for KEALKIDIKI.

While we were near NIGRITA, I managed to escape and proceeded to NIGRITA (P 37-70) where I gave myself up to the Gendarmerie.

ANNEX 25*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE CONCERNING FORCED RECRUITMENT BY GUERRILLAS AND THEIR
FREE PASSAGE ACROSS THE GRECO-BULGARIAN FRONTIER

Salonika, 23 December 1947

I have the honour to enclose under separate cover 25 copies in English and 15 copies in French of the testimony by the witness Zotos (doc. B/105), which relates how he was forcibly recruited by the Andartes, and how the latter can freely enter Bulgarian territory.

This account is characteristic of the way in which the rebel bands receive every kind of support from Bulgaria.

(Signed)

A. DALIETOS

Greek Liaison Representative

Appendix: Testimony by the witness ZOTOS

* Document A/AC.16/35.

APPENDIX

B/105/E

SWORN STATEMENT OF WITNESS
(surrendered bandit)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: NIKOLAOS ZOTOS
Father's name: ATHANASSIOS
Born: KORYTSA
Age: 24
Occupation: Woodcutter

I was conscripted by force on 3 October 1947 near the village ISAIA (L 51-99), region XANTHI, where I had gone to cut wood, by bandits. They led me to a nearby ravine where the remaining members of the band were. We then proceeded to ARKOUDHOREMMA (F 42-14) where we spent the night.

The following morning we entered Bulgarian territory at No. 8 Bulgarian frontier post - if I remember correctly - and conversed warmly with the Bulgarian soldiers there.

We accordingly by-passed No. 7 Bulgarian frontier post, entered Greek territory and made for the bandits hide-out, situated on Greek territory about one hundred metres from the frontier. There I was detailed to guard in a concentration camp bandits.

Ten days later I joined a demolition gang and entered first into BULGARIA and then into Greece along the same route.

Following the same route we regained the bandits hide-out on 11 October, whereupon I took charge of pack transport.

On the evening of 12 October about 20 bandits came from the Coy known as "Apokripsis"*. They took my packtransport and went into Bulgaria for supplies. The next morning I saw them returning with the animals loaded.

That same day, i.e. on 13 October I took up new duties at the bakery. At the bakery I daily received paper flour sacks on which were printed Bulgarian letters. I remember the word "SOFIA". I worked in the bakery until 30 October 1947.

During my stay there I saw cases of ammunition bearing Bulgarian letterings in a hut where bandits lived in, which had been previously brought there by the bandits of the Coy known as "Apokripsis" from Bulgarian

* Apokripsis - Service charged with the secret storage of war material, foodstuffs, etc. received from Bulgars.

territory. I also saw a certain new instrument used for exploding mines, which had been brought from Bulgaria. This instrument was shown to all of us. I recognized this instrument when I saw it again after my surrender at 555 Bn which captured it during the operations in which I also participated.

During my stay in the hide-out I was supplied with a field-dressing of Bulgarian origin with Bulgarian lettering on it.

On 31 October 1947 I was posted to the Coy which I joined and made for ARKOUDHOREMMA (F 42-14) following the same route.

On our way we met a wandering Bulgar sergeant on Greek territory whom we handed over to No. 88 Bulgarian frontier post, where we had lunch.

The same sergeant showed us lemons which had been left there by ZACHAROPOULOS, a passing bandit, who had entered Bulgaria.

On 2 November 1947 I was again sent to the bakery to collect bread. However, I lost my way and entered Bulgarian territory by way of No. 9 Bulgarian frontier post.

I reached the hide-out in the evening where I saw several wounded bandits who were being evacuated into Bulgarian territory where there was a convalescent camp for bandits.

On 3 November I collected the bread and proceeded to join my Coy at ARKOUDHOREMMA. Two hours later 2 liaisons arrived. I continued marching in order to hand a note to the Coy Commander Kapetan NIKIFOROS quicker. As soon as I met NIKIFOROS and while we were returning towards ARKOUDHOREMMA, I saw a Bulgar officer accompanied by a soldier both on horseback on Greek territory.

The Kapetan then stopped the Bulgar in order to acquire information of a military nature. In fact, he asked for assistance in the event of an attack by the Greek army. The Bulgar officer told him not to worry as Bulgarian cars loaded with war material destined for bandits were arriving at RUDOSEM (F 52-29) situated about 12 kilometres inside Bulgarian territory. The Kapetan asked that this be kept secret. I learned all this as I was interpreting.

Three days later I went to a place near STAVROUPOLIS (L 40-97) together with my Coy in order to seize sheep. I found the opportunity to escape and surrendered to the Gendarmerie Station at YERAKAS (L 50-96) on 9 November 1947.

ANNEX 26*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE
CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON
COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE BULGARIAN
AUTHORITIES AND THE ARMED BANDS.

Salonika, 23 December 1947

I have the honour to submit under separate cover fifteen copies in French and twenty-five copies in English of the sworn statement of Constantin Hassapidis, who gives interesting details regarding the collaboration between the Bulgarian authorities and the armed bands, the method of supplying these bands with war material provided by Bulgaria, and the evacuation of wounded bandits for treatment in that country (B/103).

(Signed) A. DALIETOS

Liaison Representative
of the Royal Hellenic Government

Appendix: Sworn statement of Constantin HASSAPIDIS.

SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

(surrendered bandit)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: CONSTANTINOS KHASSIPIDIS
Father's name: LAMBROS
Born: MESSIMVRIA, of East Rumilia
Age: 44
Occupation: Farmer

I was conscripted by force in my village KHRISTOS (P 36-94) by armed bandits on 22 July 1947 at 21.00 hours.

Being a member of the communist party since 1926, I firmly believed in the policy of reconciliation for the spiritual unity of the nation and so I did not obey the orders of K.K.E. according to which I had to take to the mountains. I was thus considered as a saboteur of the bandit warfare and so I was forcibly conscripted.

After I was conscripted I was taken on 24 July 1947 to LALIAS (K 47-09) where I was issued with a rifle of Italian make and 50 rounds. As I had protested for the knavish way I was conscripted, the commander of a bandit Battalion named GEORGIU said to me: "Now, take this rifle and learn to kill men." I was then posted to the bandit Coy headed by PETROS. This Coy belonged to the bandit formation headed by VLAKHOGEORGIS.

On 17 August 1947 at 10.00 hours we were attacked by Greek Army troops. The fight lasted until nightfall. We changed position during the night.

That same thing was repeated on the following days as well.

At last on 22 August I with two others, one named GEORGIOS ZEVGOS from VERNARI and another named GEORGIOS or DIAKOS of unknown surname from EVROS, were sent to the YIAFKA at ANO VRONDOU (K 55-12).

There we took over two wounded bandits one named NIKOS from THESSALONIKI and another one of unknown name from KAPERI with the purpose of evacuating them into BULGARIA for treatment.

The order for the evacuation of the wounded bandits was given to me by my Coy Commander PETROS. He also gave me a letter which I wrote in Bulgarian and he signed in Greek. This letter was addressed to the Bulgar political instructor of the Communist Party of BULGARIA named KOSTA IGNATIEF or IGNASSIEF STOILOF from SOFIA. The letter ran as follows:

(Comrad KOSTA, take care so that the wounded whom we send to you will arrive straight at their destination for they were wounded since many days. Send to us some STAYER as well as rounds for STAYER. Also send us rifle slings, field dressings and medical supplies for wounded. Give 4 days'

/rations

rations to the escort and send them back.

With comrade Greetings PETROS.

For the genuineness of the signature

PETROS

We loaded the wounded bandits on two donkeys and left. Before long a liaison came and communicated to us an order of the chief of the YIAFKA at ANO VRONDOU with the alias GOGOZ according to which we should wait to join with a similar group of Kapetan RAFTOUDIS evacuating 3 wounded bandits. So it was done.

Five men of RAFTOUDIS headed by FILOTAS arrived, driving 4 mules and 1 horse on which they had loaded 3 wounded bandits. We then loaded our 2 wounded on two mules and the liaison took over the donkeys to drive them back. So we were 8 escorts and 5 wounded bandits with FILOTAS in charge.

We walked all night long and on the morning of 23 August we crossed into Bulgarian territory by way of Mt ALI BUTUS (K 50-22) and made our way to No. 22 Bulgarian frontier post. While we were near the post, I saw the bandit formation headed by VLAKHOGEOGRIS coming from the road of the Bulgarian village PETROVO (K 42-28) and stationing under the noses of the men of No. 22 Bulgarian frontier post at a point 300 metres far from the post on Bulgarian territory.

We proceeded to the post and handed over the wounded bandits. The wounded were then taken over by a Bulgar soldier and a bandit from our group and were transported to the Bulgarian village PETROVO in order to be accordingly transported to a hospital in the Bulgarian village PETRICH (K 17-26).

At PETRICH (BULGARIA) there is a hospital in which bandits who are evacuated into Bulgarian territory via No. 22 Bulgarian frontier post receive treatment, while those who are evacuated into Bulgaria via No. 1 and 2 Bulgarian frontier posts receive treatment in a hospital in GORNA DJUMAYA.

The Bulgars of the post offered us tea. I asked for KOSTA STOILOF in order to hand over to him PETROS' letter. But a Greek liaison of the bandits with the Bulgars who very frequently goes to BULGARIA named PETROS from STENIMAKHON told me that STOILOF was absent in SOFIA. Then FILOTAS gave an order and we burned the letter.

As I was informed by Bulgar soldiers and by bandits, STOILOF is a high ranking official of the Communist Party of Bulgaria in the area GORNA DJUMAYA, but lives in SOFIA. He is responsible for the supply of the bandits with war material from Bulgaria. GIOTE, a responsible member of the Communist Party of Bulgaria in the area of GAITANINOVO (K 61-30) is his assistant. This is known by the commanders of the frontier section of GAITANINOVO. The war material through the intervention of STOILOF is carried to a Greek-Bulgarian YIAFKA located east of GAITANINOVO. In charge of this

/YIAFKA

YIAFKA is one named Kapetan GIORGIS from TZOUMAYIA. It is from this YIAFKA that the bandit formations active in the area of SERRAI (P 42-90) are supplied with war material.

Accordingly FILOTAS came in touch and spoke with VLAKHOGEOGRIS who ordered that both groups, i.e. ours and that of RAFTOUDIS should stay there for the purpose of collecting war material.

Then FILOTAS together with KHARIS (a person responsible for the collection of war material from the a/m YIAFKA, trusted by RAFTOUDIS) and the three others of their group took the five animals and moved in the direction of No. 1 Bulgarian frontier post and told us to stay at No. 22 Bulgarian post.

We spent the day and the night at that post.

On the morning of 24 August one of the five who on the preceding day had moved towards No. 1 Bulgarian post came and told us to go to No. 1 Bulgarian post too. From No. 1 post we all left for No. 2 Bulgarian Post. When we arrived at No. 2 post, the Bulgarian guards offered us a meal. After the meal was over, the 5 men of RAFTOUDIS took the 5 animals and left for the Greek-Bulgarian YIAFKA. We 3 slept at No. 2 post.

At midnight the a/m 5 men returned with the animals loaded with mines. Then all of us left in the direction of No. 1 Bulgarian Post and unloaded the mines at a point about 700 metres west of No. 1 post on Bulgarian territory. Also they had collected from the YIAFKA loaves of bread, marmelade, sugar and cigarettes for all 8 of us.

We spent the day of 25 August at that point. In the meantime we often called at No. 1 Bulgarian post where the Bulgars gave us food.

That same evening the 5 men of RAFTOUDIS left for the a/m YIAFKA. We three spent the night at that point. At daybreak of August 26, the 5 men returned with the mules loaded with mines and Panzer Faust (anti-tank weapons). We spent the day at that point.

In the evening the 4 men of RAFTOUDIS and ZEVGOS, from our group again left for the YIAFKA. On the morning of 27 August they came with the mules loaded with mines, panzer faust, bottles of petrol as well as rounds for STAYER. We spent the day there.

In the evening the a/m 5 persons left for GATTANINOVO to collect foodstuffs for all of us. They returned on the morning of August 28, bringing loaves of bread, marmelade, sugar, cigarettes and lard for about a week.

We stayed at that point until the evening of 30 August, when we loaded the 5 animals with mines only and departed (we left all the rest material at that point).

We by-passed No. 22 Bulgarian frontier post, crossed into Greek territory

territory and proceeded onto Mt ALI BUTUS. We spent the day of 31 August there.

In the evening we departed for the YIAFKA at ANO VRONDOU, where we arrived at daybreak of 1 September.

Then the 4 men of RAFTOUDIS unloaded the war material at that YIAFKA while we were sent to a point about 500 metres far in the wood to sleep, so as not to see where they were going to hide the war material.

In the evening all eight of us departed again for Bulgaria. In the morning, we crossed into Bulgarian territory and stationed at a point near No. 22 Bulgarian frontier post. We spent the day there and on the evening of 2 September, we left and soon we arrived at the point where we had left the war material. We slept there and in the morning we called, without our animals, at No. 1 Bulgarian frontier post, where we met a platoon of 20 men of ANANIAS' Coy who had come to collect war material. There we also saw Kapetan GIORGIS who is in charge of the Greek-Bulgarian YIAFKA.

We had lunch at the post. There I was informed that the Bulgar commander of the frontier sector of GAITANINOVO with Kapetan GIORGIS had brought the day before 50 kilogrammes of sugar which were collected by the platoon of ANANIAS' Coy.

We were also informed that there was no more war material in the Greek-Bulgarian YIAFKA.

That same evening of 3 September, KHARIS with 2 others took 3 animals and went to GAITANINOVO to collect foodstuffs for all of us. The foodstuffs are issued by the Bulgarian Military authorities of GAITANINOVO. We spent the night at No. 1 Post.

On the morning the a/m 3 persons returned bringing loaves of bread, marmelade, sugar and cigarettes. We spent the day at No. 1 post.

That day it was decided that 4 of our group and a section of the platoon of ANANIAS' Coy should collect the war material we had accumulated there before and transport it into Greek territory, while the rest would stay there to collect war material from the YIAFKA.

I was among those who were going to collect the accumulated war material. FILETAS was in charge. We loaded 8 animals (5 ours and 3 of the group of ANANIAS) with all the accumulated war material and left.

On the evening of 4 September, we by-passed No. 22 Bulgarian frontier post and crossed into Greek territory where we unloaded the war material at a spot about 300 metres from the frontier line. We spent the day there.

During the day 2 Bulgar soldiers came from No. 22 Bulgarian frontier post to the place we were, spoke with us and went off.

Also a group of VLAKHOGIORGIS' formation passed from us, transporting 3 wounded bandits, 1 girl from SKOTOUSSA, 1 woman who was in the family way from KIOUPRI, to No. 22 Bulgarian frontier post. In charge of the group was

/someone

someone with the alias AKSEKHASTOS.

Then FILOTAS ordered me, as I speak Bulgarian, to accompany the group as far as No. 22 Bulgarian frontier post.

We arrived at No. 22 Bulgarian frontier post, where they offered us tea. Then I said to the Bulgar in charge of the post upon orders of AKSEKHASTOS that the wounded bandits should immediately be transported to their destination, for they were severely wounded. Then one Bulgar soldier and one of the group took over the wounded bandits and made their way towards PETROVON, I then returned to my group.

In the evening we loaded the arms on the mules and left and at daybreak of 6 September, we arrived at a point between ANO VRONDOU and LALIAS. Then FILOTAS ordered me and 8 men of the platoon of ANANIAS' Coy to proceed to the YIAFKA at ANO VRONDOU. This was done so as not to see the spot where they were going to hide the war material. From VRONDOU I proceeded to LALIAS where my unit was.

On the evening of 6 September, the unit to which I belonged left for UGLIS (M 55-04). We remained there 3 days. On the evening of September 9, we again left for LALIAS. On our way, at a point south of ANO VRONDOU I saw the group headed by FILOTAS proceeding to BULGARIA to collect war material. We arrived at LALIAS at daybreak. We spent the day there and on the evening of 10 September, we left for KARA TAS.

PETROS' Coy to which I belonged moved to FAIA PETRA (K 36-11), to seize foodstuffs for the whole bandit formation. After we had seized foodstuffs we departed for KARA TAS.

On our way I was put as vanguard. I thus found the opportunity and hid myself, and at daybreak of 11 September 1947 I proceeded to SIDIROKASTRON (K 30-07) and gave myself up to the Gendarmerie of SIDIROKASTRON.

ANNEX 27*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE CONCERNING FLIGHTS OVER GREEK TERRITORY
BY AIRCRAFT COMING FROM THE NORTH

Salonika, 26 December 1947

I have the honour to forward under separate cover twenty-five copies in English and fifteen copies in French of a list of cases of violation of Greek territory by aircraft coming from the north (document AIR/101 F & E).

The gravity of this violation does not derive solely from the violation of Greek territory, but above all from the fact that these flights, by various aircraft coming from countries north of Greece, over districts controlled by the rebel bands are designed to supply the bands with food and war materials of all kinds, and also to carry out reconnaissance of Greek army movements in order to provide the bands with strategic information required for their operations.

(Signed) A. DALIETOS

Liaison Representative
of the Royal Hellenic Government.

Appendix: List of cases of violation.

* Document A/AC.16/43.

VIOLATIONS OF THE GREEK AERIAL SPACE BY PLANES COMING
FROM THE NORTHERN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

On 13 October 1947 at 05.30 hours a plane of unknown nationality coming from Albania (Height 1806) flew over MOURGANA (R 64-67). It continued its flight in the direction of IOANNINA (S 02-50) - PARAMITHIA and accordingly in an unknown direction.

On 13 October 1947 at 15.30 hours another plane coming from Albania flew over KONITSA (R 98-93) and then eastwards. Due to cloudy weather its further observation was not possible.

On 19 October 1947 at 13.00 hours a plane of unknown nationality coming from Albania flew MOURGANA (R 64-67) and then towards FILIATES (R 55-47) at an altitude of approximately 2500 metres.

On 26 October 1947 at 03.00 hours a plane of unknown nationality flew NW of METSOVON (S 32-59). At the position FLENGA (Height 2159) S 27-70 fires of I shape were lit by bandits. These fires were surrounded by other fires. The a/m plane, after making some circles over this position, flew in the direction of MILAIA (S 36-67).

On 26 October 1947 at 04.00 hours a plane of unknown nationality coming from Albania flew over KONITSA and then eastwards. While over KONITSA region (R 98-93) a flare was fired from it.

On 26 October 1947 at 07.15 hours a plane of unknown nationality flew over the town KASTORIA (N 46-40). It accordingly flew over VOGATSIKON (N 54-29) and then over MOURIKI (N 63-38).

On 27 October 1947 at 01.15 hours a plane of unknown nationality was spotted over KONITSA (R 98-93). The plane came from S.E. and then flew in the direction of LESKOVIK (M 85-06) of Albania and accordingly disappeared.

On 28 October 1947 at 14.30 hours a four-engine plane coming from the direction of ARGIROKASTRON (Albania) passed over MOURGANA (R 63-67) and made towards LAVDHANI (R 75-69).

On 29 October 1947 at 13.20 hours a plane of unknown nationality flew over FILIATES (R 56-47), then towards MOURGANA (R 63-67) and thence made towards ALBANIA.

On 7 November 1947 at 13.45 hours a twin-engine plane of unknown nationality coming from Albania flew over MOURGANA (R 63-67) then in the direction of KHRISORAKHI (R 84-70) - KONITSA (R 98-93) and thence eastwards.

On 20 November 1947 at 18.05 hours a plane of unknown nationality with a small light as its sole distinctive mark and coming from Albania flew over IGOUMENITSA of EPIRUS (R 51-36) and then eastwards.

/On 7 December 1947

On 7 December 1947 at 20.05 hours a plane of unknown nationality was at first spotted over the point S 02-56 (7 kilometres north of IOANNINA). It then made in the direction of PROTOPAPA (R 90-64) - KHRISORAKHI (R 84-70) KASSIDIARIS mountain crest - KASTANIANI (R 68-72), region in which mopping-up operations were carried out on that day by VIII. Division and thence made towards ALBANIA.

On passing over KASSIDIARIS, it signalled by switching its lights on and off.

On 8 December 1947 at 14.50 hours a reconnaissance plane of unknown nationality flew over BELLES (J 82-20) and then SE-E. It made a circle over OUSITSA (K 28-19) and thence flew towards Bulgaria by way of the STRIMON valley.

On 9 December 1947 at 08.25 hours a plane of unknown nationality coming from the West flew over ELAIA (R 85-76) and then towards ZAGORIA region S 07-68. It passed over KATO PEDHINA (R 89-75) where it fired a flare.

On 11 December 1947 at 19.20 hours a plane of unknown nationality flew over the village PATIMA (O 00-74) of KAIMAKTSALAN region and then made in the direction of MONASTIR (BITOLJ) of Jugoslavia.

On 11 December 1947 at 19.30 hours another plane of unknown nationality flew over KOLINDROS (O 48-28) and then northwards where it disappeared.

On 17 December 1947 at 00.40 hours a plane of unknown nationality passed over AMFISSA at an altitude of about 3000 metres and made SE. The plane had white and red navigation lights.

ANNEX 28*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE CONCERNING AN ARTILLERY ATTACK
ON SOUFLI NEAR THE GRECO-TURKISH FRONTIER

Salonika, 26 December 1947

I have the honour to submit fifteen copies in French and twenty-five copies in English of document B/100/F & E concerning the attack launched by the bandits against the village of Soufli (M. 74/92) from 7 to 8 December 1947. During this attack the rebel bands used artillery and heavy mortars as well as other weapons of Bulgarian origin. The above facts are corroborated by the sworn statements of the bandits Yalammas, Hadjoglou, Anastassiou and Iodanidou, who took part in the operation and who subsequently surrendered to the Greek military authorities, and also by the inspection on the spot carried out by the expert Avraam Georgalakis.

I have pleasure in informing you that the above-mentioned witnesses as well as all the relevant documentary evidence in the possession of the Greek authorities are at the disposal of the Committee.

(Signed) A. DALIETOS

Liaison Representative of
the Royal Hellenic Government

Appendix: Narrative of the attack.

Report of the inspection of ammunition found after the attack.

Sworn statements by four witnesses.

* Document A/AC.16/44

APPENDIX

B/110/E

NARRATIVE OF THE ATTACK AGAINST SOUFLION (7/8 DECEMBER 1947)
ON WHICH THE BANDITS MADE USE OF ARTILLERY

1. As from 17.00 hours of 7 December 1947 to 05.00 hours of 8 December 1947, 3 bandit battalions of about 1000 men in all, attacked the town SOUFLION (M 74-92).
2. Right from the first moment began a heavy bombardment mainly of military targets by fire of heavy weapons.
3. From the first explosions and even from the noise of the shells on their way to their targets, it was immediately perceived by all the officers of the Bn having its HQ at SOUFLION that apart of the bombs of heavy weapons a number of artillery shells were also fired.
4. The number of the fired artillery shells is not absolutely ascertained. The artillery shelling was succeeded by mortar fire.
5. Before the attack there was positive and absolutely ascertained information that the bandits had mountain artillery at their disposal. After the attack against SOUFLION its use was ascertained.
6. As a result of the search, various proofs were found inside and round the town SOUFLION, as the attached report on the inspection of ammunition.
7. We submit:
 - (a) Four sworn statements of bandits who took part in the attack of 7/8 December 1947 against SOUFLION and later gave themselves up to the Military Authorities.
 - (b) A Report on the inspection of ammunition collected after the attack against SOUFLION,for the ascertainment of the a/m facts.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTION OF AMMUNITION COLLECTED
AFTER THE BANDIT ATTACK AGAINST SOUFLION.

The undersigned, W. O. AVRAAM GIORGAKARKOS, Ammunition Inspector of 10th Mountain Division, following an oral order of the Ordnance Office of X. Division, carried out an inspection of the ammunition which were in the Intelligence Office of C. Army Corps and were collected after the attack against the town SOUFLI, and I came to the following conclusion:

1. There are two Artillery shrapnels of 7.5 centimetres each, which were fired and exploded. From the marks they bear it is evident that they are of the Bulgarian Army.
2. Similarly, two mortar explosive bombs of 81 millimetres with fuses. From the marks they bear it is proved that they are of the Bulgarian Army. They were fired (as it appears from the propellant round) but did not explode at the point they fell (i.e. their fuses did not work).
3. Similarly, two disformed tails of mortar bombs of 81 millimetres. They are of the Bulgarian Army, were fired and exploded.
4. Similarly, there are 7 fuses 24-31 model 1915 of French make, but SLAV use, for neither the Greek Army nor the British or the German Army ever made use of such shape fuses.

The Greek Army was at a time using fuses 24-31 but of an entirely different shape.

/SWORN STATEMENT

SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: DIMITRIOS YIALAMAS
Father's name: MOSCHOS
Born: MANDRA (M 76-99)
Age: 22
Occupation: Farmer

On the night of 15 November 1947, together with another 14 persons, we were conscripted by force from our village by a group of 20 bandits. After a 24 hour march we arrived at a spot near the abandoned Military Installations at IMAMLAR (G 52-06) where the bandit camps are.

On the fourth day of our stay there I saw arms being carried from the direction of Bulgaria. I did not perceive from what place they brought them, nor did I ask about it, for no one is allowed to make questions.

As soon as the arms were carried to the place we were, they distributed them to us. They gave me a German brand new greased rifle, 70 rounds in new and clean boxes bearing letters other than Greek. Each box contained 15 cartridges. They also gave me a defensive hand grenade. I think it had a Bulgarian handle.

After we were armed, they posted us to Bns. I was posted to the 3rd Bn, having at that time its HQ at TSIKOURDERE (M 50-93).

On 5 December 1947 at noon, while our Bn had camped west of the hill ADA (M 60-63), I saw my cousin DIMITRIOS YIALAMAS, son of CHRISTOS, a bandit, and asked him where he had been such a long time. He answered that he serves as a gunner. He told me that the guns had been issued to them very lately and that another 50 bandits also serve as gunners.

I asked him of the spot the guns were. Then my cousin took me along and we went and saw the guns. There were two guns, the barrels of which were covered with their water-proof covers. Each gun had two wheels. The diameters of the wheels was about 0.80 centimetres. Near the guns there were boxes containing shells of dark brown colour. Also we could see their cases of yellow colour.

After the attack against SOUFLION (M 74-92), I found the opportunity to hide myself and give myself up next day to the Military Authorities of SOUFLION

/SWORN STATEMENT

SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS
(surrendered bandit)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: STAVROS KHATZOGLOU
Father's name: IOANNIS
Age: 18
Born: KHANDRA (CRESTIAS area)
Occupation: Farmer

I was conscripted by force by bandits on 15 October 1947.

Some days later they gave me a rifle and posted me to the 1st platoon of the 2nd Coy of 3rd Bn.

After the attacks against the village LAINA (M 73-79) and the town KOMOTINI (L 98-86) we took part in the attack against SOUFLI launched on the night of 7/8 December 1947.

On 5 December 1947 while our Bn was on its way to attack SOUFLI and had camped near a ravine, I saw at a spot near our platoon in a nearby ravine two guns which were put up. In answer to my question I was told that each of these guns was loaded on 9 mules. Their barrel was over a metre in length. Their calibre was approximately 7.5 centimetres. The wheels of these guns had a diameter of 0.80 centimetres. In answer to my question my squad leader told me that the guns had a range of nine kilometres, whereas the guns of the army have a range of 15 kilometres.

/SWORN STATEMENT

SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS
(surrendered bandit)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: ANASTASIOS TONOGLOU
Father's name: ILIAS
Born: SPILAION
Age: 17
Occupation: Farmer

I was conscripted 3 months ago and via Bulgarian territory I was taken to ARMOUTLI (G 53-09).

I participated in many operations and lately in the attack against SOUFLION (M 74-92) which took place on the night of 7/8 December 1947.

I saw 2 mountain artillery pieces loaded on mules as well as shells in boxes. I also saw about 25 mules and 40 gunners.

On the attack of 2 December 1947 against LADHI (G 72-665) the Artillery followed the bandits but did not fire.

When our sections were on the way to attack SOUFLION, we were followed by the Artillery, but I cannot fix the point at which the guns were put up in order to open fire.

I know that the use of Artillery on the attack against SOUFLION aimed at strengthening the morale of the bandits. On the attack against SOUFLION the guns fired 10 to 12 shells.

SWORN STATEMENT OF A WITNESS
(surrendered bandit)

Name: Iordanis SKERLETIDIS
Father's name: Stavros
Born: PALAIA SAYINI
Age: 20
Occupation: Farmer

On 12 October 1947, I was conscripted by force together with another 12 persons from our village by a group of 15 bandits and were taken to the bandit camps near IMAMLAR (G 52-06).

Four to five days after our arrival at the camp, arms were brought there, but I do not know from what place and were distributed to us. I was given a German rifle and 65 rounds.

After we were armed, we were posted to battalions. I was posted to the 2nd Company of the 4th bandit battalion which at that time had its Headquarters at TSEKOUR DERE (M 50-93). I then participated in the attacks against KOMOTINI (L 98-86) and LAINA (M 73-79).

On the night of 5 December 1947, while we were on the march to attack SOUFLI and camped in a ravine west of ADA hill (M 60-63), I saw about 35 loaded mules overtaking us. As our battalion had not so many mules, I asked a bandit who told me that the mules were loaded with guns and artillery shells.

On 7 December 1947, at 15.00 hours, a little before the attack against SOUFLI, our platoon commander told us that, at first, the mortar will fire 35 bombs on the post of KORNIFOLIA (M 73-87) and after that our guns will fire 14 shells and that the attack will be launched before the 15th shell is fired.

During the confusion which prevailed during the engagement, I found the opportunity to make my escape and give myself up to the Military authorities at SOUFLI (M 74-92)

ANNEX 29*

LETTER FROM THE BULGARIAN DELEGATE TO THE UNITED NATIONS TO THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, CONCERNING A
REPORTED INCIDENT ON THE GRECO-BULGARIAN FRONTIER

6 November 1947

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that on 8 October 1947, the Bulgarian Frontier Post No. 14, situated about one mile south of the village of Gorno-Loukovo, (frontier sector of Kroumovgrad), was fired upon with rifle and machine gun fire from the direction of the Greek Post No. 45.

I send you this communication in order to point out that if conditions on the Greco-Bulgarian border are not satisfactory, this is due to the policy of continuous provocation on the part of the Greek Government.

(signed) Dr. N. MEVORAH

Bulgarian Delegate to the
United Nations

* Document A/AC.16/9

ANNEX 30*

COMMUNICATION FROM THE BULGARIAN DELEGATE TO THE UNITED
NATIONS CONCERNING THREE FRONTIER INCIDENTS

To: The Principal Secretary of UNSCOB
From: Assistant Secretary-General in charge of Security Council Affairs

I am enclosing copies of the following communications received from the Minister Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations, for the information of the Special Committee:

- (1) letter dated 8 December 1947, concerning frontier incident on the Bulgarian-Greek frontier in the Nevrokop sector (K-64/43), on 9 November 1947;
- (2) letter dated 9 December 1947, concerning frontier incident on the Bulgarian-Greek frontier in the Petritsch sector (K-17/26) on 16 November 1947;
- (3) letter dated 10 December 1947, and enclosures, concerning frontier incident on the Bulgarian-Greek frontier in the Mogullitza sector (F-36/25), on 31 July 1947.

Note: Map Co-ordinates refer to 1:250,000 Greece G.S.G.S. sections K and F

APPENDICES 1, 2, 3

EXHIBITS 1, 2

* Document A/AC.16/36, 24 December 1947.

APPENDIX I

LETTER FROM THE BULGARIAN DELEGATE TO THE UNITED NATIONS
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Legation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

8 December 1947

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following incident which occurred on 9 November 1947 on the Bulgarian-Greek frontier - section of Nevrokop.

At 8 p.m. an armed band coming from Greece attacked the stockade of Racim Kolev and Ibrahim Mehmedov, both of the village of Sliashten (Nevrokopsko). The bandits fired a few shots and disarmed the above named shepherds. Alarmed by the firing, the Bulgarian soldiers from the near-by frontier posts went to the stockade. They were fired upon by two bandit groups which had taken position near the stockade. At the same time, about 120 bandits, who had taken position in the usually empty Greek frontier posts enveloping a stretch of the frontier of about three kilometres, opened fire upon the Bulgarian posts in that area in order to prevent them from coming to the aid of the shepherds. This allowed the attackers to drive across the frontier about 500 sheep and goats from the stockade.

It is obvious that this attack was carefully planned and organized by military specialists with the knowledge and collaboration of the Greek authorities. This is supported by the fact that the attackers wore Greek military uniforms, that they made ten trenches south and east of the stockade, that the withdrawal of the bandits was carried out according to the rules of warfare and that the bandits were armed with modern weapons and used tracing bullets.

(Signed) DR. N. MEVORAH
Bulgarian Delegate to the United Nations

APPENDIX 2

LETTER FROM THE BULGARIAN DELEGATE TO THE UNITED NATIONS
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Legation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

9 December 1947

I have the honour to inform you that on the 16th November 1947 at 4.30 p.m., in the Petritsch sector of the Bulgarian-Greek frontier, the patrol of the Bulgarian frontier post, which is situated about 500 metres south of the village of Koulata, was fired upon while patrolling in the middle of the road which runs parallel to the river of Strouma, from an ambush laid in Greek territory.

(Signed)

DR. N. MEVORAH

Bulgarian Delegate to the United Nation

APPENDIX 3

LETTER FROM THE BULGARIAN DELEGATE TO THE UNITED NATIONS
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Legation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

10 December 1947

With reference to my letter dated the 24th October 1947,** I have the honour to inform you of the following details of the incident which was mentioned under No. 7 in the list attached to the above-mentioned letter.

The three bandits, Emin Medkov Hassanov, Usein Arifov Kissiov, and Aramadan Aimov, working for the Greek Military Intelligence Service, were killed in a skirmish on Bulgarian territory when they refused to surrender at the summons of our frontier guards. It was established that the three of them were dressed in British uniforms and one of them had an English sub-machine gun, another had a Greek carbine, and the third a German carbine. In the pockets of Medkov documents were found which established that he and his group were working for the Greek Military Intelligence and that the group was equipped, armed and sent to Bulgarian territory by the Greek authorities.

A permit was also found, issued in Drama (Greece), authorizing them to circulate freely in the border zone. During the skirmish, the bandit tore up these documents and tried to hide them. It was also ascertained from the documents that the task of the band which, for the last two years, had made several forays on Bulgarian territory, was to agitate against the Republic's government among the Moslem population living in the frontier zone, to incite the population to immigrate to Greece and to organize a subversive movement.

The band also robbed several Bulgarian citizens and especially have carried across the frontier livestock taken from Bulgaria. The same band had attacked the Bulgarian frontier posts situated 2,500 metres south of Zlatograd (F-75/15) (frontier sector of Tchorbadjisko) during the night of the 13th November 1947.

** Note: The relevant part of the letter of 24 October 1947 follows:

7/ On the 31 July 1947 around 4.30 p.m. between posts No. 1 and No. 2, west of the village Kiselitchevo (frontier sector of Moguilitza) three armed persons entered Bulgarian territory from Greece. The group was encircled by Bulgarian frontier guards and was annihilated. The bandits identified appeared to be Ussein Arifov Kissov, resident of Tchereshovo (Moguilsko) and Ramadan, resident of Liaskovo (Devinsko) and Emin Nedkov Hassanov, resident of Biela-Reka (Moguilsko), who had escaped to Greece and served in the Greek Intelligence Service. In the skirmish the first two were killed on the spot and the third - Hassanov - died later from his wounds.

/I enclose

I enclose photostatic copies of the two documents mentioned above together with their English translation.*

(Signed) DR. N. MEVORAH
Bulgarian Delegate to the United Nations

* Documents A/AC.16/36, EXHIBITS 1 and 2.

/EXHIBIT 1

EXHIBIT 1

PERMIT

We allow (1) Boroukliev Mehmet Tou Ismail; (2) Metkov Emin Tou Ahmet,
and (3) Hadgirussev Mourat Tou Ahmet to go to Avrasini.

/s/ illegible

31 May 1947

Translator of Bulgarian Minister
of Foreign Affairs

(Signed) Iv. Tcheltchev

EXHIBIT 2

Bureau of Aliens in Drama

CERTIFICATE

We certify that Emin Mehmet Hassan, born in Tosbouroun, Arda Bulgaria,
domiciliated in Tolon, Paranestion-Drama, is in the service of our Bureau
of the Aliens in Drama.

Drama, 20 March 1946

Chief of the Bureau

/s/ illegible

Translator of Bulgarian Minister
of Foreign Affairs

(Signed) Iv. Tcheltchev

ANNEX 31

Report dated 19 December 1947 from the Greek Liaison Representative on relations between Greece and her Northern neighbours*

(Letter from the Greek Liaison Representative to the President of the Special Commission.)

Salonica, 19 December 1947

I have the honour to state that relations between Greece and her Northern neighbours, so far from being marked by the friendliness which the Greek people and Government so ardently desire, have in the last two months unhappily deteriorated appreciably.

New facts for which Greece cannot in any way be held responsible have had to be added to an already very long list. They illustrate clearly - and I have confined myself to reporting only the most striking of them - the unshakable determination of our neighbours to pursue towards Greece a policy of hostility bordering on open warfare.

I. Relations with Albania

As I pointed out in my survey of 2 December last, no treaty of peace has yet been signed between Greece and Albania.

In addition to raids by armed bands from Albania and assistance given by that country to bands operating in Greek territory, frequent frontier incidents have occurred in which Albanian covering troops and frontier guards have played a direct and active part (e.g. by murdering Greek soldiers; kidnapping shepherds and peasants and driving off cattle).

As an allied country and a Member of the United Nations, Greece had a right to expect that the recommendations adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 21 October 1947 by a large majority would have persuaded those now in power in Albania not to continue the aggressive policy towards Greece which they consistently followed in 1945, 1946 and 1947. She had a right to hope that Albania, recognizing her obligations, desiring to be received into the family of the United Nations and anxious to resume her place among the peoples of the Balkan Peninsula would finally have adopted a conciliatory attitude and done her best to restore normal relationships with all her neighbours. Exactly the reverse has taken place. Albania, acting on instructions the ulterior motives of which evoke the most justifiable apprehensions, has just signed a treaty with Bulgaria at Philippopolis (Plovdiv) on 16 December 1947.

* Document A/AC.16/52

/This treaty,

This treaty, although it is described as "a treaty of friendship, mutual collaboration, cultural agreement" etc., is nothing but an essentially offensive alliance. The speech which the Albanian Prime Minister, Enver Hoxha, made on that occasion has at least the merit of dissipating any doubt concerning the nature of this treaty.

These were his words:

"The new treaty represents a guarantee of brotherly collaboration between democratic peoples. We have set up an invincible common front against the imperialists, who are striving by their provocative methods and their intrigues to instigate war. Our peoples are masters of their fate. This is not true of Greece, where the imperialists and fascists terrorize the people, who are fighting heroically for freedom. We express our sympathy for the heroic Greek people and we proclaim our intention of giving them our full moral and political support."

(Speech made by Enver Hoxha on 16 December 1947 at Plovdiv). Broadcast in Bulgarian by the Sofia radio station on 16 December 1947, at 10:30 p.m.)

The last sentence alone of the Albanian statesman's speech shows how gravely relations between Albania and Greece have deteriorated, and contains the grimmest of forebodings for the future.

For the sake of the record I add the report of the speech which was circulated by the Associated Press:

Sofia, 17 December

"In his reply Enver Hoxha said, 'Our peoples, who have suffered the consequences of imperialism and are resolved to retain at all costs the gains which they have won after such a bitter struggle, are following with sympathy the struggle of the heroic people of Greece. We offer that people full moral and political support because they deserve it and because we desire their freedom and the maintenance of lasting peace and democracy in the Balkans and Europe'".

II. Relations with Bulgaria

Three times in less than thirty years (between 1913 and 1941) Greece has seen her northern provinces invaded by the Bulgarians, with all the suffering that hatred and the destructive rage of their soldiery inflict.

Greece was very bitterly disappointed to find her rightful claims for strategic adjustments of her frontiers rejected at the 1946 Paris Conference.

She did not wish, although she was entitled to do so, to make the international political situation more difficult by obstinacy even in a matter vital to her security and defence. On 10 February 1947 she signed a peace treaty with Bulgaria and the instruments of ratification were deposited at Moscow in November 1947.

/She did

She did even more, for she requested the mediation of the British Government with a view to establishing diplomatic relations between the two countries.

To these overtures, which furnished outstanding proof of Greece's desire to live henceforward in peace with her neighbours, the Bulgarian Government responded by the following acts.

1. It ordered Capt. Alexandrakis and Capt. Narinos, Greek liaison officers attached to the British Military Mission to the Allied Control Commission at Sofia, to leave Bulgarian territory at once.

By this action Greek interests in Bulgaria were left completely unprotected.

2. During the last two months mass deportations of Greek nationals living in Bulgaria have been carried out by interning them in the interior of the country.

3. The Bulgarian Premier, Georges Dimitroff, has sided openly with the armed bands fighting against the Greek Government and against the present social order. This is proved by the speech which he made on 16 December 1947 at the signing of the treaty of friendship between Albania and Bulgaria.

The following extract leaves no room for doubt:

"They are trying to drag us into a war against our brothers, the people of Greece. They are trying to shake the very foundations of the peace. But our people advancing together along one road, are able to protect their independence. The time when their plans could have been frustrated by governments in the pay of the imperialists has passed never to return. We are new peoples with a modern technique. We have a democratic front, and we have a common front with democratic Greece. We salute the heroic struggle of our Greek brothers and their heroic army. The victory of this army is necessary not only for the Balkans but for the whole world. Long live the brotherhood of democratic peoples, the Yugoslavs, the Greeks, the Roumanians and the Hungarians! Long live our brothers in the common struggle!"

(Broadcast in Bulgarian from Sofia on 16 December 1947 at 10:30).

The Associated Press, in a message dated 17 December, also reported Dimitroff's words:

Sofia, 17 December

"It is officially announced that Bulgaria and Albania signed yesterday, Tuesday, a treaty of friendship, collaboration and mutual assistance, a convention for cultural collaboration, and economic and commercial protocols. On the signature of these agreements the Bulgarian Premier made, in particular, the following remarks, which are reported word for word:

/"I am certain

"I am certain that our friend Prime Minister Enver Hoxha is at one with us in saluting our Greek brothers and their democratic army, whose victory is an historic necessity for the peace of the Balkans and of the whole world."

4. In regard to the United Nations Special Commission for the Balkans, which the United Nations appointed to act as an intermediary in assisting the Balkan States to renew and maintain normal diplomatic relations with Greece, Bulgaria has ranged herself beside Yugoslavia in her refusal and deliberately decided to adopt a hostile attitude towards this Commission. Her liaison officers have not arrived, and there is no doubt whatever that she will formally refuse to admit observers to her territory.

This was borne out on 27 November 1947, when the pact of friendship between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia was signed at Euxinigrad (near Varna) on 27 November 1947, by the statement published simultaneously at Sofia and Belgrade. This statement sets out:

"That the two politicians (Marshal Tito and Mr. Dimitroff)

consider that the Commission constitutes a 'violation of the principles of the United Nations' and that they can neither recognize nor collaborate with it nor admit it into their countries' territory."

(From the Press)

5. Finally and to crown all, the Moscow radio has just announced a piece of news fraught with grave consequence.

Dimitroff, President of the Bulgarian Council, is said to have stated that Bulgaria could not renew or maintain diplomatic relations with Greece, "as that country has lost its sovereignty".

The following is a summary of this broadcast as it was transmitted from London and reprinted in the Athens newspaper, "KATIMERINI" of 18 December. The signature of the pact between Albania and Bulgaria was followed by a declaration in which Greece is regarded as "not at present a sovereign and independent State" and it is said that "the resumption of diplomatic relations with that country (Greece) would not be possible at present."

6. Bulgaria, in flagrant violation of the provisions of the peace treaty which she has just signed, is maintaining a considerable army which is a serious threat to peace in the Balkans, as is shown in particular by statements made on the subject by Mr. Bevin, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Great Britain on 17 December.

III. Relations with Yugoslavia

Relations with Yugoslavia have recently become so much worse that I will merely append the supporting evidence.

The items set out below speak so fully for themselves that no comment is necessary.

1. Statements made by Marshal Tito to journalists on the signing of the Treaty of Friendship, Collaboration and Mutual Assistance between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria (Treaty of 27 December 1947) (Text circulated by the Yugoslav agency Tanjug. From the newspaper, "BORBA" for 1 December 1947: Appendix I).
2. Statement by the Yugoslav Minister-Plenipotentiary Echref Bandievitch, spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Belgrade. (from the newspaper "BORBA" for 26 February 1947) Appendix II, on the United Nations Balkan Commission.
3. Statement of Mr. Stanoye Simic, Yugoslav Minister of Foreign Affairs, to the representative of the AFP on the attitude of Yugoslavia towards the United Nations Special Commission for the Balkans (Bulletin of Presse Agence France, 26 November 1947. Appendix III.)
4. Articles in the newspaper "BORBA" for 2 November 1947 entitled "Wall Street, Unsuccessful as a Rescuer, Openly Organizes the Extermination of the Greek People" (Appendices IV and V).
5. It should also be noted that the Yugoslav Government has since September 1946 recalled its Minister from Athens and that he has subsequently been relieved of his duties, while the Greek Government has been represented uninterruptedly at Belgrade by its Minister Mr. Dalietos, who is still accredited to the Yugoslav Government.
6. Numerous Greek nationals who have lived in Yugoslavia for many years have recently been expelled and ordered to leave the territory of the Peoples' Federal Republic, and have been forced to leave behind all their property and belongings. Members of their families have also been expelled.

The Commission will have an opportunity of weighing these facts. It will be able to refer them to the Sub-Commission for study and draw the fitting conclusions.

These facts, taken as a whole, show the elements of the policy which Greece's three neighbours are pursuing systematically and in concert towards Greece, a policy of which the final aim is none other than to enslave the Greek nation and make Greece a vassal of a pitiless totalitarian system, a fate which we have seen overtake more than one country in post-war Europe.

(signed) A. DALIETOS

Liaison Representative of the
Royal Hellenic Government

APPENDICES

1. Statement made by Marshal Tito to journalists on the signing of the Treaty of friendship, collaboration and mutual assistance between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.
(Extract from the newspaper "BORBA" of 1 December 1947.)
2. Statement of the Minister Plenipotentiary, M. Echref Bandievitch.
(Extract from the newspaper "BORBA" of 26 November 1947.)
3. Extract from the "Bulletin de l'Agence France-Presse" of 26 November 1947.
4. Article from the newspaper "BORBA" of 2 November 1947.
5. Article from the newspaper "GLAS" of 25 November 1947.

APPENDIX 1

STATEMENT MADE BY MARSHAL TITO TO JOURNALISTS ON THE SIGNING OF
THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, COLLABORATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE
BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND BULGARIA

(Extract from the newspaper "BORBA" of 1 December 1947.)

On leaving the friendly territory of the Bulgarian Peoples' Republic Marshal Tito held a press conference for Bulgarian and foreign journalists in the train between Sofia and Dragoman. On this occasion the Marshal replied to the following questions which he was asked about the Treaty signed at Euxinograd and about the political situation in general.

To a question on the importance of the Treaty of friendship, collaboration and mutual assistance, Marshal Tito replied:

"From what I saw all the way from Sofia to Varna and coming back across southern Bulgaria, it may be concluded that the whole Bulgarian population has accepted the Treaty of friendship, collaboration and mutual assistance as the realization of their wishes. I, myself, came from Yugoslavia to conclude the Treaty which is, in fact, an expression of the wishes of the whole Yugoslav people.

During its stay in Yugoslavia the Bulgarian Government delegation, headed by Georgi Dimitrov, was able to realize that the Yugoslav people, too, have a great desire to do away with the past, once and for all, and to begin a new life, a life of inseparable and cordial friendship, a life of political, economic and cultural collaboration.

We concluded several agreements at Bled, including an agreement to sign a Treaty of friendship, collaboration and mutual assistance. However, this Treaty could not be signed at that time for political reasons, and we have signed it now when no further obstacles exist. With the entry into force of the Peace Treaty Bulgaria has become a completely independent State, and has now the right to conclude treaties with different countries and, of course, with our country in the first place.

The Treaty which we have signed is extremely important, not only for the consolidation of relations between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, but also for the whole world. Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, the two principal States in the Balkans, have disposed of everything that might cause discord between them or be a further source of misunderstanding.

We have removed the powder-keg from the Balkans, and you know that in the past that powder-keg in fact lay in the relations between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. We have broken with the past. We have succeeded in doing that because, in Bulgaria as well as in Yugoslavia, the regimes which once stood
/in the way

in the way of close collaboration between our Slav and related peoples have been abolished. A new internal political and economic system has been set up in Yugoslavia. Bulgaria is following the same path. This similarity in the internal regime of our States was a still greater stimulus to achieving the present collaboration.

Some people, however, are displeased with this. Various reactionary elements abroad are noisily claiming that Tito and Dimitrov are, as they allege, in some plot or other. We are doing nothing wrong; we are doing nothing which might be directed against anybody. We are only doing what our people want and what furthers their peace and tranquility. We know what hindered the will of the people being carried out in the past, and the will of the people is always right.

I realized during my visit to Bulgaria, as the Bulgarian delegation did during its visit to Yugoslavia, that there was no difference in the wishes of the peoples. In Yugoslavia as well as here the people do not want frontiers; they want federation. (We view these popular desires from the standpoint of the State. Our Treaty contains all the essential elements for complete economic, commercial and other collaboration between the people of Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. That is why, for example, we are planning to collaborate in foreign trade, to have a Customs union etc. Then there is the question of safeguarding our frontiers. In the Treaty the question of safeguarding our frontiers is clearly defined. Both countries will jointly safeguard their frontiers and defend their freedom and their independence. That is not aimed at any other State; it is aimed only at ensuring our national security. Of course, it is also important for safeguarding peace in the Balkans.

To the CTK correspondent's question whether safeguarding peace in the Balkans also meant safeguarding peace in Central Europe, Marshal Tito replied:

"That is quite correct. Until recently the Balkans have been the scene of imperialist struggles, and now attempts are being made to create a base in the Balkans for certain imperialistic aims. That is why safeguarding peace in the Balkans means peace in Europe. If we can prevent the Balkans from becoming a hotbed of war that will make it impossible to some extent to disturb the peace of Europe. A Treaty like that just signed between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia should also exist between the other Eastern States. We have a treaty with Bulgaria, and we intend to conclude treaties with Hungary and Roumania also.

The conclusion of such treaties means establishing a system of collaboration to defend the peace. All these treaties represent a guarantee of peace and give us a possibility of rebuilding our economy. The Second World War was a war of liberation, but when the war was over the States

/failed to

failed to reach a decision on all the questions of the peace. The Slav States have decided to work together to organize, not only their internal life, but also their external policy.

The Slav countries are diametrically opposed to imperialistic tendencies, and that is why the system which we have created for safeguarding our peaceful development is a contribution to general peace. Naturally, that does not preclude the possibility of concluding treaties with other non-Slav States.

The PAP correspondent pointed out that the treaties concluded between Poland and Czechoslovakia provided for common defence in case there was a threat of aggression by Germany. He asked the Marshal how that question was treated in the Bulgaro-Yugoslav Treaty.

"The Treaty between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria" replied Marshal Tito "makes provision not only for the danger of German aggression, but also for any other aggression whatever its origin. Although German imperialism has been crushed, it may become a weapon in the hands of other imperialists. That is why we are opposed not only to German imperialism but also to all those who seek to threaten our independence. That is the new element in the Bulgaro-Yugoslav Treaty. It will be embodied in any future treaties which we may conclude."

Questioned by the editor of "Trud", the organ of the Central Committee of the General Association of Trade Unions on what would be the tasks of the working class in Bulgaria and Yugoslavia under the Treaty concluded between the two countries, the Marshal replied:

"The workers of our countries must do shock tasks and raise the standard of production to ever higher levels, for economic development is the foundation for the general progress of the people."

"What form will the collaboration between the workers of the two countries assume?"

"Exchange of experiences gained and a higher standard of living."

To the Associated Press Correspondent's question about his views on the Balkan Commission which is to study the situation on the Northern frontier of Greece, Marshal Tito replied:

"In the General Assembly of the United Nations we refused to recognize that Commission. We do not recognize it and we shall not allow it to enter our territory. We consider it illegal and, as far as we are concerned, it does not exist nor is that all; we consider that the Commission is a danger to peace in the Balkans and that its existence makes possible various provocative acts by monarchical fascist governments directed against the

/three States,

three States, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania."

"Might the danger to peace in the Balkans constitute a danger to peace throughout Europe?" was the next question.

"I do not believe in war, but provocation may be offered. However, such provocation can also be dealt with and one of the first ways of doing this is to expose it."

"Can the conclusion of a Customs Union between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia be expected soon?"

"Yes, soon. It is being worked out."

Finally, asked about his impressions of his visit to Bulgaria, and of Bulgarian workers, peasants and the people in general, Marshal Tito replied:

"It is difficult to express all that I have seen; it exceeded my expectations. The Bulgarian people, peasants and town-dwellers, met us with open arms and with a full understanding of what the Yugoslavian Federal People's Republic and the Bulgarian People's Republic are accomplishing today."

Report dated 19 December 1947 of the Greek Liaison Representative concerning the relations of Greece with her northern neighbours.

APPENDIX 2

STATEMENT BY MR. ECHREF BANDIEVITCH, MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY

(Extract from "Borba" of 26 November 1947)

Mr. Echref Bandievitch, representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Minister Plenipotentiary, held a conference today with representatives of the home and foreign press at the Information Department.

On the subject of the Balkan Commission - in connection with its arrival at Salonica and the impending commencement of its work - Mr. Bandievitch said inter alia:

"The very manner in which this Balkan Commission has been set up, in direct contravention of the principle of international collaboration, has shown that such a Commission had nothing in common with the principles of the United Nations. The origin and membership of the Commission sufficed to prove that the Balkan Commission would not constitute a body created in the spirit and for the achievement of aims of the United Nations Charter, but, on the contrary, would be a mere tool of United States policy, which of late has been trying openly to make the United Nations an instrument for carrying out its policy of expansion.

The numerous events which have taken place since the Commission was set up and since it arrived in Greece confirm that our point of view is right. The establishment of a United States General Staff for Greece, which will direct the operations of the Greek monarcho-fascist army, the constant arrival of an increasing number of United States military experts and officers and their distribution among the units of the Greek monarcho-fascist army, and also the preparations for landing in Greece larger units of the United States Army, are convincing evidence to this effect.

These facts show that the United States, in violation of the most elementary principles of the United Nations Charter, continues to intervene ruthlessly in the internal affairs of Greece, is making preparations for open and complete military intervention in Greece and is threatening the independence and integrity of the democratic countries of the Balkans.

In the light of these facts, the Yugoslav Government endorses the attitude adopted by the Yugoslav delegation at the session of the United Nations General Assembly, declares that it will accord no right to the Balkan Commission and condemns once again the attempts to apply, under the cloak of the authority of the United Nations, a policy that aims at destroying the national independence of a people, threatens the peace in that part of the world and is preparing favourable conditions for reckless

/provocation by the

provocation by the instigators of a new war. The participation of certain countries in the Balkan Commission, which is compromised in the eyes of world democracy and which the Soviet Union and Poland have refused to join, constitutes a fact on which the Governments of those countries should reflect and to which they should give consideration."

APPENDIX 3

EXTRACT FROM THE BULLETIN OF THE AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE OF 26 NOVEMBER 1947

Lake Success, 25 November 1947

"We shall always be glad to welcome the members of the new United Nations Commission in the Balkans if they wish to visit Yugoslavia, but we shall never permit the Commission to investigate or even to make an official journey in our country," the AFP representative was told today by the Yugoslav Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Stanoje Simic, who refused to comment on the work done by the General Assembly of the United Nations, but expressed the view that "the prestige of Yugoslavia has never been so great even in the United States, as it is today".

APPENDIX 4

ARTICLE IN THE NEWSPAPER "BORBA" OF 2 NOVEMBER 1947

Unsuccessful as a "Rescuer".

Wall Street openly organizes the extermination of the Greek people

The imperialist enterprises in Greece are daily bringing fresh disillusionment to ruling circles in the United States. It is becoming more and more evident that the dollars and military aid given to their vassals, the Truman-Marshall bait for the puppet Government and the anti-democratic "doctrines" preached are no longer able to stifle the struggle of the Greek people against the American attempts to dominate and enslave them. Today the Greek people are defeating the attempts to enslave them made by Wall Street, which through its flunkies wishes to achieve what previous aggressors against the liberty and independence of Greece failed to achieve.

The democratic army has turned the attacks of the United States imperialists, of the American agents in Greece, into victories for itself. This fact is recognized even by numerous supporters of the Sofoulis Government and Griswold. Thus, a report by France-Presse states that the "activities" of the guerrillas are increasing and their numbers are growing, and that the guerrillas have adopted the new tactic of fighting for several days at a time, attacking towns and even strong points. The same agency asserts that the area of operations of the Democratic Army "extended over all the mountainous regions which comprise four-fifths of the total territory of Greece," and that "it has begun operations in the islands of Samos, Crete and Euboea." The American attempts to deceive the Greek people with false amnesties by appointing the Liberal politician, Sofoulis, Premier have failed. The bankruptcy of the whole policy of the interventionists and the American officials in the Government is evident.

The imperialists have tried in various ways to excuse the failure of their policy in Greece. They have invented "international brigades" in Yugoslavia and "aid to the Greek guerrillas by the northern neighbours of Greece."

Certain American diplomatic and military experts have endeavoured "to explain" the Greek question in one way. They have invented "the danger of a Macedonian incident" and have expressed apprehensions in regard to that "disturbed region". "There are a dozen dangerous problems in Europe," they told a correspondent of the United Press, "and the greatest is that of Macedonia. Next only come the dangerous problems of France, Italy and Great Britain and finally Greece". In their efforts to reduce the resistance shown by the people of all Greece to that which is being offered in Aegean Macedonia alone (where, as in the other parts of the country, the brutal

/monarch-fascist terror

monarcho-fascist terror has roused the whole people against it) they have tried to make out that the supposed "intentions" of Yugoslavia and Bulgaria "increase the anxiety with regard to Macedonia." Every time they were preparing a fresh attack against the Greek people, the American imperialists and their monarcho-fascist flunkys tried to deceive the public by making accusations against the northern neighbours of Greece. On this occasion too, their new manoeuvres were preceded by stories about the "Macedonian peril."

The American voting machinery at the General Assembly of the United Nation created the so-called "Balkan Commission," the purpose of which is to justify American intervention and crimes in Greece by the authority of the United Nations and to serve to spread fresh slanders against the neighbouring democratic countries. Realizing the ineffectiveness of this dubious institution, in the work of which the Soviet Union and other countries have refused to take part, "well-informed circles", as the France-Press Agency calls them, "consider that the decision of the General Assembly to send a commission to the Balkans was inadequate." "Well-informed" American circles realize that the saying "The Caid is your accuser; the Caid is your judge" is too well-known for it to be likely that anyone will be deceived. The energetic attitude of the democratic countries has deprived the "Balkan Commission" - that Wall Street instrument of enslavement - of all authority and has unmasked the American intention to transform that "Commission" into an organ of the United States State Department to serve as a weapon against the independence of the Greek people and of the other Balkan peoples. That is why the American enslavers have ceased to respect "legal form" and the need for justification by setting up a "commission for the enslavement of Greece".

On the basis of the notorious Truman "doctrine", the American imperialists have openly proclaimed further measures for the enslavement of Greece.

The day before yesterday Tsaldaris suddenly interrupted the debate in the Greek parliament and, according to the AFP, made the following statement:

"Dwight Griswold, Head of the American Mission for Aid to Greece, has today announced the decision of the United States Government to form a joint American-Greek General Staff and to attach American observers to the staffs of divisions and the smallest units." According to Reuter, Tsaldaris explained that the "joint General Staff" to direct the war against the guerrillas would, in fact, be exclusively American. It would consist of officers of the United States Army, Navy and Air Force; the American officers would join the Government's operational units. The United States Government has taken to open armed intervention in Greece and the struggle against the democratic people of Greece has passed into its hands.

/The Wall Street

The Wall Street masters have not forgotten Zervas' warning that "there should be no illusions" but that everything should be done to "crush the revolt", that is to say, the Greek people. They have rightly interpreted the words of their diplomatic and military experts: "The policy of the United States in Greece represents a commitment for Washington, and the American capital at stake in Greece is very large, to say nothing of the question of prestige."

With the professional distortion usual in imperialists, they see no disgrace in their "commitment", in the "American capital in Greece", which obliges them to set themselves up as masters and commanders.

After the failure of its various secret endeavours to enslave Greece, the United States Government has decided to place an American commander at the head of the monarcho-fascist army. Tsaldaris and Sofoulis, who are paid for this purpose, have accepted him with open arms.

The formation of a Greek-American General Staff is evidence of the weakness of the imperialists. The democratic people of Greece and their army, unflinching and resolute, block the path of the "joint" General Staff - a last desperate attempt to save the American-monarcho-fascist positions and their interests in Greece. The decision of the United States Government to intervene openly and ruthlessly in the internal affairs of Greece is evidence of the fear felt by imperialists in presence of the growing forces of democracy in Greece.

APPENDIX 5

ARTICLE IN THE NEWSPAPER "GLAS" OF 25 NOVEMBER 1947

AMERICAN MONARCHO-FASCIST GENERAL STAFF - INSTRUMENT

FOR THE EXTERMINATION OF THE GREEK PEOPLE

A few days ago, at the close of a meeting of the Monarcho-Fascist National Defence Council under the chairmanship of Sophoulis, at which were present as permanent members the Chiefs of the British and American Military Missions to "save" Greece, Tsaldaris suddenly interrupted the discussion to make the following announcement: "Dwight Griswold, Head of the American Mission for Aid to Greece, announced today the United States Government's decision to establish a Greco-American General Staff and to attach observers to divisional staffs and to the staffs of even the smallest detachments." This news was given out by the France-Press Agency, and Reuter supplemented Tsaldaris' statement by saying that "the Joint General Staff to carry on the war against the guerillas will in reality be exclusively American. It will consist of American army, navy and airforce officers. The American officers will be attached to Government operational units." According to the United Press, General Livesey, who will command the new Greco-American General Staff, said to representatives of the Press: "After all, in a sense, all of Greece is a combat area. As soon as we receive the necessary authority, we shall give advice. However, if we advise an attack and the Greeks attack and it is a failure, it is a Greek responsibility, not ours."

Thus, even before the British Mission to "save" Greece, which was directed by the past master in this art, Winston Churchill, has concluded its task, the Greek people has had the "good fortune" of being offered "aid" by Greece's new saviours: according to Gauleiter Griswold's announcement, American officers will take an active part in the campaigns of the monarcho-fascist bands against the democratic army of Greece. The purpose of this participation by "observers" is to assist the Wall Street imperialists' mission to "save" Greece, which is to proceed directly with the organization of a "superior type" of extermination of the Greek people in order to defend the American imperialists' bastion in the Balkans.

The British troops in Greece who, in the process of maintaining "order", have caused the greatest possible disorder, are obliged to yield the "responsibility for order in Greece" to American officers, while retaining, according to Griswold, the role of trainers of the Greek army. For the Americans, busy with the "maintenance of order", will not have the time to concern themselves with such "small" matters as training monarcho-fascist
/Greeks in

Greeks in methods of massacring the Greek people.

Those are the latest measures taken by the American imperialists, who, on the basis of the notorious Truman "doctrine", are overtly adopting new methods of enslaving the Greek people and extending their role of "saviours" to that of organizers of extermination. With the help of the people as a whole, and spreading the flame of the struggle for liberation over all parts of Greece and even over all the islands, the democratic Army of Greece is breaking the plans for enslavement which the imperialists are attempting to carry out with the assistance of their flunkys and their missions of aid to Greece, so as to succeed where earlier aggressors against Greek independence and liberty failed.

The American imperialists, who have failed to deceive the Greek people by making the Liberal statesman, Sophoulis, the Premier of the monarcho-fascist Government, have been unable to conceal their true purposes by any kind of amnesty whatsoever. They have been beaten on all points of their policy, and are now proceeding to direct military intervention. The imperialists have failed to mask their interference in the internal affairs of Greece by levelling various charges against Yugoslavia and her other northern neighbours; and so, by means of their voting machinery and in violation of the principles of the Charter, they created the so-called Balkan Commission. The chief aim of this Commission - as can be clearly seen today - is to cover American intervention in Greece and the monarcho-fascist crimes. But feeling the unreliability of such an institution, - the climax of a whole series of jesuitical machinations by the imperialist adventurers, - "competent American sources", as they are described by the France-Press Agency, consider that the decision to send a Balkan Commission is inadequate.

These competent American sources clearly realize that, thanks to the energetic attitude of the democratic countries which have refused to be represented on it, the Balkan Commission, as an instrument of enslavement devised by Wall Street, does not possess the authority of an international commission. They have therefore ceased to observe "legal form" and have brutally gone on to more "effective" measures by which to pursue their policy of enslavement.

The praises which Tsaldaris sang at the General Assembly session, in honour of "the people whose generosity inspired President Truman's programme of aid to Greece" have borne fruit. President Truman's "generous inspiration" is being supplemented today by the "human" participation of American generals and officers alongside the ferocious bandits. According to the British periodical, the "Economist," the United States, by upholding

/Greek economy

Greek economy and arms, by assisting in the training of the Greek Army and supporting Greek affairs in international assemblies, has become the principal factor in Greek politics. American authorities have assumed responsibility for supplying the Greek army, gendarmerie and police. They have approved an increase in the Greek Army of 30,000 men.

They have approved the enrolment of 50,000 men in the National Guard, shared in the work of national defence through the medium of their Chiefs of Missions, and today, with their aid "experts," are drawing up a plan for the complete extermination of the rebels and for sending their "observers" into even the smallest of the monarcho-fascist detachments whose task it is to bring about the effective extermination of the Greek people.

For these "new operations on a grand scale," the purpose of which is to stifle the freedom and independence of the Greek people, the necessary steps had been taken before hand. According to a statement by Acheson, former American Assistant Under-Secretary at the State Department, \$50,000,000 of the total sum provided as American aid have been allocated to the army, and the remainder for the restoration of the national economy and the purchase of goods for consumption by the people. With the money allocated for the restoration of the national economy, as Griswold has stated, the ports of Piraeus, Salonika and Volo will be rebuilt and aerodromes constructed in Greece. Thus, instead of helping the national economy, the money is being used to convert Greece into a military base for the United States of America. Greece has become an American colony and this colony must be defended against the Greek people and its democratic army.

Today, more than ever before, the words of truth spoken at the session of the General Assembly of the United Nations by the representatives of the Soviet Union and the new democratic countries stand out in all their significance. The tricks and intrigues of the Wall Street adventurers and their advocates who defended the Balkan Commission, have become evident.

But the formation of a common American monarcho-fascist General Staff and the sending of "observers" to the staffs of the monarcho-fascist units are not merely measures to safeguard American-monarcho-fascist positions and their interests in Greece. They are also a proof of the imperialists' weakness. The imperialists were disturbed by the fact that the unceasing monarcho-fascist offensives were becoming great victories for the democratic army of Greece.

In face of the imperialists, in face of the various saviours and hardened fascist bandits who torture, imprison and kill the Greek patriots, the Greek people and its army are unshakably resolved, and the courageous sons of democratic Greece are showing themselves worthy of their ancestors

/of ancient

of ancient Hellas as they defend the freedom and independence of the Greek people and frustrate the realization of the imperialists' plans.

These forces are daily increasing in number and strength.

They are armed with the convictions and the experience acquired in the course of a long period of struggle with all the occupiers of Greece - from the Italians, Germans and English, to the Americans. The growing strength of the democratic masses of Greece, who have become conscious of their power, is making the monarcho-fascists and the many agents of imperialism in Greece shake with fear. In answer to the increasing terror, the new arrests and murders, the sons of the Greek people, standing shoulder to shoulder in the democratic army, are proving by their decisive and uncompromising struggle that they cannot and will not submit to Wall Street's policy of enslavement. The Greek people have provided still another proof of this recently by the organization of great demonstrations in Athens. In one of its most recent transmissions, commenting on this event, the radio station of the democratic army in Greece declared:

"This great mobilization of the population of Athens is one more lesson for the American occupiers and their lackeys and proves that the Greek people will never accept the regime of famine and colonization of their fatherland. Neither the arrests carried out by the agents of Sophoulis nor courts martial will intimidate the Greek people, any more than the German courts martial and the German tanks could intimidate them."

D. Budimirovic

ANNEX 32*

COMPOSITION OF THE MARKOS' GOVERNMENT, FORMED ON 23 DECEMBER 1947

COMMUNICATION FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE

Markos' Radio broadcast gave out this morning the names of the Government which was formed yesterday.

Prime Minister and Minister for War:	MARKOS
Deputy Prime Minister and Home Affairs:	IOANNIDES
Minister for Foreign Affairs:	Peter ROUSOS
Finance:	Basile BARZOKAS
Justice:	PORFYROGENIS (Known as FANIS)
Agriculture:	VIAMIAS
National Economy:	Leonidas STRINGOS
Hygiene - Social Welfare:	Peter COCCALIS
Education (temporarily):	Peter COCCALIS

The seat of this government has not been given out yet.

ANNEX 33*

LETTER FROM THE GREEK LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE CONCERNING THE FORMATION OF
A "PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT" BY GENERAL MARKOS

Salonika, 25 December 1947

The United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans has already been able to take cognizance of the formation of a "Provisional Government" by the rebel leader Markos.

Yesterday the guerrilla wireless station broadcast the news of the government's formation and also gave the names of its members, which were communicated to the Secretariat in a brief note.

The Government's first act was a proclamation in which it stated, inter alia, that "it would organize a powerful army, airforce and navy and that it proposed to accredit representatives to all the democratic peoples."

The formation of a government by the guerrillas is a further stage in a plan carefully prepared by Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania and aimed at imposing a communist regime upon Greece by force, contrary to the wishes of the great majority of the Greek people.

This government, composed essentially of long term members of the Greek Communist Party, is well designed to carry out the annexationist intentions of our Northern neighbours with regard to Macedonia and Greek Thrace, intentions which have been announced on many occasions and whose realization is being carried out by both military and political means.

The establishment of the Markos "Government" indicates a considerable deterioration in the situation. It hastens the development of events in the Balkan Peninsula and leads towards the creation of an extremely critical phase for peace in this part of the world.

Far from taking to heart the recommendations of the United Nations General Assembly, which were based upon the observations made by the Commission of Investigation of the Security Council, the neighbouring countries have continued, and continue, to furnish the guerrilla bands with arms and munitions. This has enabled the bands to launch today large-scale attacks in which the artillery with which they have been quite recently equipped plays a leading part.

Furthermore, radio Belgrade has become the medium for giving publicity to the actions and deeds of the Markos "Government", which is considered to be the only Greek Government. This fact is in itself convincing proof of the close links between Markos and his superiors.

* Document A/AC.16/38.

/This state of

This state of affairs gives a sudden turn to the swift march of events, and creates a danger fraught with the gravest complications. Greece finds herself in the unfortunate position of realizing that the forebodings and apprehensions which were expressed by the Greek Government in its appeal to the United Nations are far from being belied by events, which have occurred with almost mathematical precision during the year now drawing to its close.

The Greek Government is following the development of the situation calmly and with fortitude, and declares that it is ready to give every possible assistance to the Committee in order to implement the decisions and measures which the Committee may deem fit to take in this connection.

(Signed) A. DALIETOS

Greek Liaison Representative
to UNSCOB

ANNEX 34*

CONSTITUTIVE ACT OF THE MARKOS "PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT"

(SUBMITTED BY THE GREEK LIAISON SERVICE)

Taking into consideration the pressing need of our people due to the suppression of its independence by the Americans, a Provisional Democratic Government has been formed with the following objects:

(1) To continue the struggle by all possible means, to intensify it and liberate the country from foreign imperialists and their native lackeys, for the victory of Democracy and the independence of the whole country.

(2) To stabilize popular reforms within the framework of the People's Republic.

(3) To strive for the reconciliation of our people and to re-establish friendly relations with all the democratic peoples.

To attain these ends, laws will be promulgated. Decrees will be issued by the competent ministers and signed by the Prime Minister.

At the first meeting it was decided to issue a proclamation to the Greek people.

The provisional government is founded upon the might of the people because it springs from the people.

When conditions permit, it will proceed to the election of a people's national assembly on a popular basis.

The members of the provisional government take the following oath:

"I swear faithfully to serve the aims of the provisional government in the interests of my country and of the Greek people threatened by foreign imperialists and their native lackeys. I will be the protector of the people and will successfully carry out my task."

23.XII.1947

The Prime Minister: Markos

The members of the government.

ANNEX 35*

PROCLAMATION OF THE "PROVISIONAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT",
DELIVERED BY MILIT. PORPHYROGENIS

(SUBMITTED BY THE GREEK LIAISON SERVICE)

In view of the destruction of our national independence by Anglo-American imperialism and its native lackeys, a Provisional Democratic Government has been formed. There is no Greek government at Athens, but only Sophoulis and Tsaldaris, who have sold Greece to the foreigners. This state of affairs and the action of the democratic army have created the basis for the formation of a Democratic Government. The Greek people have always fought for the freedom, independence and democracy of their country.

During the years of occupation they organized national resistance, they liberated Greece and subsequently attacked the British, and then, in order to avoid bloodshed, they fought for reconciliation.

All these efforts failed to stop the misdeeds of the Anglo-Americans and their native lackeys, whose attitude became, on the contrary, even more intransigent. The people's struggle has, moreover, become a necessity and that is why the Democratic Army has been formed, an army which has not only repulsed the enemy's attacks but has taken the initiative and thus laid the first foundations of Greek independence and democracy.

The isolation of Greece from Socialist Europe by the foreign imperialists means death for Greece. That is to say that they (the Americans) are seeking to make Greece a bridgehead for the accomplishment of their imperialist aims.

The formation of the Provisional Government was a pressing need in this historic moment and is intended to aid the struggle now being carried on by the Greek people and especially by the Democratic Army.

The Government's first aim is the mobilization of all resources for the expulsion of the foreign tyrants and native traitors, and also the creation of republican conditions so that elections to nominate people's councils may be called.

These councils will have as their aims the nationalization of industry and of foreign companies, agrarian reform, improvement of the people's food supplies and the purging of all fascist elements from the State administrative organs.

The Provisional Government also intends to increase the strength of the army, navy and air force in order to defend Greek independence against any foreign designs.

* Document A/AC.16/40, 27 December 1947

/To collaborate

To collaborate with all the democratic peoples of Europe and to establish within the framework of the United Nations friendly relations with all countries, and particularly with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. To maintain diplomatic relations with the democratic peoples. We will never allow our country to become a base for operations against the neighbouring People's Republics.

We begin our task with optimism; we do not underestimate the difficulties, but the Greek people and all the democratic peoples of the world stand at our side. Our hopes for the creation of a Greek People's Republic are based upon all these facts.

Long live the independent Democratic Greek Government!

Long live the Greek people!

To arms!

Everything for the struggle!

Done at the seat of the Provisional Democratic
Government

The Prime Minister: General Markos

The members of the government.

ANNEX 36*

REPLY FROM THE GREEK LIAISON SERVICE TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON REFUGEES

(DOCUMENT A/AC.16/SC.3/2)

DATA ON THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEES IN GREECE

The Principal Secretary of UNSCOB, in a letter dated 20 December 1947, submitted to the Greek Liaison Representative a questionnaire, in three parts, on the problem of refugees in Greece, a problem which is of interest to the Committee in view of the terms of reference conferred upon it by the General Assembly of the United Nations, and which is specifically referred to in paragraph 6, sub-paragraph 2 and paragraph 5, sub-paragraph 3.

- A. (1) As regards Refugees, the competent authority is the Ministry of Public Order, Aliens Office.
- (2) The said office maintains lists in which are entered the names of all foreign nationals seeking refuge in Greece. A copy of that list showing names, Christian names, personal details and occupation was submitted in April 1947, to the Security Council Commission of Investigation at Geneva.
- B. (1) (a) All persons of Albanian, Bulgarian and Yugoslav nationality taking refuge in Greece are, in principle, assembled in camps and are under the surveillance of the police authorities. The Greek Government wishes by this means to ensure that these persons undertake no political activity whatsoever.
- (b) The total number of such refugees is at present 1,251, divided as follows:
- Albanians: 613, Bulgarians: 214, Yugoslavs: 409, Roumanians: 15
- (c) The above refugees are assembled in four camps:
1. PIRAEUS CAMP (formerly the HADJIKYRIAKIOU Orphanage)

a. Albanians	293		
b. Bulgarians	12		
c. Roumanians	15		
d. Yugoslavs	16	<u>Total</u>	336
 2. LAVRION CAMP (Province of Attica)

a. Albanians	291		
b. Bulgarians	122		
c. Yugoslavs	331	<u>Total</u>	744

* Document A/AC.16/45, 29 December 1947.

3.	HERMOUPOULIS CAMPS (Isle of Cyra, Cyclades)			
	a. Albanians	4		
	b. Bulgarians	51		
	c. Yugoslavs	35	<u>Total</u>	90
4.	SALONIKA CAMP, 16 rue Gladstone.			
	a. Albanians	5		
	b. Bulgarians	26		
	c. Yugoslavs	9	<u>Total</u>	40

(d) The great majority of the above refugees are persons who have fled from their country of origin for political reasons (opposition to the existing regime, persecution, terrorism, etc.) Some of them are deserters (mainly Yugoslavs and Bulgarians). It is, however, difficult to ascertain the exact percentage of the various categories, as the Greek authorities have no information apart from the statements made to them by the refugees.

(e) According to data provided by the competent authorities, a very small number (in all some ten persons) have expressed the wish to return to their countries of origin.

(2) Refugees at liberty

1 and 2. A distinction should be drawn between refugees of foreign nationality (Albanians, Bulgarians, Roumanians and Yugoslavs) and refugees of Greek nationality.

Of the 1251 refugees coming within the first category, 41 persons (20 Albanians, 3 Bulgarians and 18 Yugoslavs) are now at liberty as they have proved that they have found work. These persons are now living at Athens and Piraeus, but supervision by the police has never been relaxed in order to ensure that they refrain from all political activities.

As regards Greek nationals from neighbouring countries, the number of such persons has not been accurately ascertained as these persons enjoy the rights of citizenship and are free to take up residence where they wish. These refugees are dispersed in all the Greek provinces and live with relatives or friends who have offered them hospitality or work.

It is only very recently that a certain number of requests for compensation for property which these refugees of Greek nationality have had to abandon in Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, have been submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(3) (c) It is unlikely that this last category includes persons who might wish to return to the countries which they have had to leave.

/The Committee

The Committee will have an opportunity of hearing the reasons for the absence of such persons. The reasons are all connected with the types of regime set up in the neighbouring countries.

C. The Greek Government has no information on the number of persons who have left Greece to take refuge in Albania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, as these countries have maintained complete silence on this question despite the injunctions of the United Nations Commission of Investigation and the repeated requests of the Greek Government.

These refugees, consisting of collaborators and ELAS men (Communist Party shock troops) or of hostages abducted during the Communist revolt of December 1944, are a body of people, who, as is shown by a mass of evidence taken by the United Nations Commission of Investigation, were the object of negotiations between the three neighbouring countries, and were handed over by Albania and Bulgaria to Yugoslavia when the latter country set about re-organizing the bands intended for operations in Greek territory.

Thus the camps at Rubig (Albania), Sofia and Petrich (Bulgaria), were vacated in favour of Bulkes and Skoplje (Yugoslavia), where military training was actively developed with a view to the formation of cadres and the training of combattants. Bulkes received the ELAS men who had been ordered by the Greek Communist Party to leave Greece after the Varkiza Agreement (February 1945), which provided that all resistance groups of both the Right and the Left should lay down their arms and avail themselves of a generous amnesty for acts committed during the occupation. On the other hand, Skoplje, Monastir (Bitolj) and Stip were used for training Greek Slavophones who had followed the Bulgarian and German armies during their retreat, and fled to escape the measures which justice would have taken against them for their crimes committed against the population of Greek Macedonia during the years of occupation, and in collaboration with the enemy.

The annexed diagram shows the route taken by these "refugees" when leaving Greece, and the one used by the same persons when returning as armed bands (Annex 1).

Two facts should be noted, facts which the United Nations Commission of Investigation was able to establish and which UNSCOB has every opportunity of confirming yet again, should it wish so to do.

(1) That all persons, whether military personnel, civilians or political refugees, who have taken refuge in Greece and are nationals of one of the neighbouring countries are under close observation by the police authorities and live in isolation far from our neighbours' frontiers. These persons do not carry on, and have never carried on any political activity whatsoever.

/(2) On the other

(2) On the other hand, the Greek "refugees" now in the territory of one of the three neighbouring countries have been used for forming the guerrilla bands or the cadres of the guerrilla bands, which have subsequently been sent to Greece either to act as mediums of propaganda (as is the case with the families of Slavophones), or to further political plans for the seizure of certain provinces of Northern Greece with the aim of annexing them to the territory of the neighbouring States.

Salonika, 26 December 1947

ANNEX 37*

RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY THE BRAZILIAN DELEGATION AND ADOPTED
BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON 29 DECEMBER 1947

The Committee is of the opinion that a recognition, even de facto, of the movement describing itself as the "Provisional Democratic Greek Government", followed by direct or indirect aid and assistance to an insurrectionary movement against the government of a Member of the United Nations in defiance of international law, peace treaties and the principles of the Charter, would constitute a grave threat to the "maintenance of international peace and security".
