

United Nations

**SECURITY
COUNCIL**

Nations Unies

**CONSEIL
DE SECURITE**

UNRESTRICTED

S/509
21 August 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION OF INVESTIGATION CONCERNING GREEK FRONTIER INCIDENTS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL DATED 21 AUGUST 1947, AND ENCLOSED TELEGRAM FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBSIDIARY GROUP

August 21st, 1947.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit, for the information of the Members of the Security Council, a telegram received on August 21st 1947, from the Chairman of the Subsidiary Group, pertaining to the intended investigation of four alleged incidents on the Greco-Bulgarian frontier.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

/s/ A. Wendelen

ANDRE WENDELEN

Chairman of the Commission

H.E. Mr. Faris el-Khoury,
President of the Security Council,
Lake Success.

COMMISSION OF INVESTIGATION CONCERNING GREEK FRONTIER INCIDENTS

TELEGRAM FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBSIDIARY GROUP TO
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION, RECEIVED 21 AUGUST 1947

Dispatched following cablegram to Foreign Minister, Bulgaria,
19 August:

"Subsidiary Group of Commission of Investigation of Greek Frontier Incidents has decided to investigate four incidents brought to its attention by the Greek Government and alleged to have occurred in same general area of Greco-Bulgarian frontier.

First incident is described as Milia-Therapio incident. It is alleged

(a) that a small group of guerrillas crossed Greco-Bulgarian frontier 2300 hours, 21 June, near Milia and Therapio and looted these villages;

(b) that same guerrillas departed from villages at 0200 hours, 22 June, and re-entered Bulgaria about one thousand metres south of Greek frontier post No. 41.

Second incident is described as Metaxades incident. It is alleged

(a) that about 40 guerrillas crossed Akalaniotiko Rema Revina, West of Alepokhori and entered Greece at 2250 hours, 23 June;

(b) that these 40 guerrillas were repulsed by Greek Army and re-entered Bulgaria;

(c) that in addition to guerrillas mentioned in sub-para. (a), group of guerrillas about 250 men strong crossed into Greece near No. 53 Greek frontier post at 0030 hours, 24 June, and in conjunction with a second group of guerrillas also about 250 men strong already in Greece attacked Greek Army garrison at Metaxades;

(d) that elements of guerrilla battalions re-entered Bulgaria upon being repulsed by Greek Army.

Third incident is described as Ormenion incident of 28 June. It is alleged

(a) that band about 30 guerrillas coming from Bulgaria crossed Greco-Bulgarian frontier over Ormenion Svilengrad road at 2300 hours, 28 July, and looted Ormenion;

(b) that same band returned Bulgaria about one hour later over same route.

/Fourth

Fourth incident is described as Ormenion incident of 4 July. It is alleged

(a) that large band of guerrillas crossed frontier near Ormenion at 2300 hours, 4 July, and attacked Ormenion;

(b) that guerrillas loaded 23 commandeered oxen carts with loot and conscripted by force five young men of the village after which they are alleged to have re-crossed into Bulgaria between Greek frontier posts No. 30 and No. 31;

(c) that the loot was transferred to cars on the Bulgarian side of the frontier which transported it in the direction of Svilengrad;

(d) that Bulgarian frontier guards cooperated with guerrillas during crossing of frontier;

(e) that guerrilla bands are permitted to make their headquarters on Bulgarian territory at Bora Gialia and near No. 31 Greek frontier post;

(f) that guerrillas receive arms, ammunition and information on Greek Army movements from Bulgarian authorities.

Subsidiary Group considers that in order to assure both completeness and impartiality of investigation of alleged incidents, it will be necessary for Subsidiary Group to extend its investigation to both sides of Greco-Bulgarian frontier. It invites the Bulgarian Government to present such evidence and to produce such witnesses as it may need desirable in this connection. Subsidiary Group further believes that cooperation between Bulgarian Government and Subsidiary Group would be greatly facilitated and decisions on itinerary and administrative arrangements simplified if Bulgarian Government would send qualified representative Salonika for consultation at earliest possible date preferably not later than 26 August. Subsidiary Group has been informed that Greek Government extends same privileges to Bulgarian representatives as communicated in Subsidiary Group cable 5 July. Subsidiary Group will be ready to enter Bulgaria by route indicated by Bulgarian Government (preferably Ormenion Svilengrad) starting from 1 September. It invites comments on the following program:

1. to cross frontier.
2. to make on the spot examination of terrain in Bulgaria in following areas:
 - (a) between Evros River and Mezek;
 - (b) frontier area between Boris Lavtsi and Meden Buk;
 - (c) such other places or localities as Subsidiary Group may later in course of hearing evidence decide necessary for a complete investigation.
3. to interrogate such witnesses in connection with the four incidents

/which the

which the Subsidiary Group may later desire to hear after study of preliminary evidence and of other witnesses which the Bulgarian Government cannot arrive Salonika on or before 26 August Subsidiary Group requests that Bulgarian Government forward its proposals regarding itinerary timetable and hearings in Bulgaria to reach Subsidiary Group at Salonika before 27 August.

Copies of all documentation submitted by Greek Government as well as list of delegations, members of Secretariat, press, the following Greek witnesses: (a) Ziassis Baralis; (b) Konstantinos Trepalis; (c) Poriklos Ziassiss; (d) Prodromas Prodromis; (e) Konstantinos Petrof Tambakof and other persons who will accompany Subsidiary Group will be forwarded by Subsidiary Group courier who will arrive at frontier post Koula 22 August.

Fernand Houssa

Chairman, Subsidiary Group."

Polish Reservation

The Polish Delegation abstained concerning the sending of this telegram:

- (1) because it considered that the best way of entering into contact with the Bulgarian Government was through its representative at the main Commission and
- (2) because it was, in principle, opposed to a certain number of the paragraphs included in the telegram.

USSR Reservation

The Soviet Delegation, in spite of the fact that the first part of this telegram was acceptable to it, voted against the draft of this telegram because of the last three paragraphs.

The Soviet Delegation considers that the Bulgarian Government must be placed on an equal footing with the other interested Governments and that it must enjoy the same rights of participating in the discussion of the plan of work of the Group before that plan is approved. That right is not taken into consideration by the telegram and the telegram denies the Bulgarian Government that right. That is why the Soviet Delegation is obliged to make its most express reservations to the sending of this telegram in the way it is drafted now.

Fernand Houssa

Chairman, Subsidiary Group.