

# UNITED NATIONS

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY



GENERAL

A/1556

27 November 1950

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

Fifth session  
Agenda item 22

### THREATS TO THE POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF GREECE

Letter dated 21 November 1950 from the Chairman of the  
Delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics  
to the Secretary-General

New York, 21 November 1950

The delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the fifth session of the General Assembly has received through the Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in Athens the following telegram from relatives of the imprisoned and exiled Greek patriots:

"Athens, 16 November 1950

"To: Mr. Trygve Lie, Secretary-General of the United Nations;  
Mr. A.Y. Vyshinsky, representative of the Union of Soviet  
Socialist Republics to the United Nations.

"We, relatives of the imprisoned and exiled Greek patriots, are following the debate on the Greek question in the United Nations with agony and emotion.

"We are pained and astonished to observe the Greek delegation's odious attempts to conceal the tragedy of the Greek people, to hide the terrible islands of death from the eyes of the whole world, and smother with lies and deceit our woes and the torments of our children, condemned to death and awaiting the firing squad from moment to moment.

"Every day we receive news which testifies to the existence of a long prepared plan for the slow but none the less certain extermination of thousands of Greek democrats who personify the finest potentialities of the Greek nation. Torture, coercion and starvation are inexorably

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driving our relatives to death.

"The political prisoners incarcerated in Amfissa, Pirgos, Makronisos and other prisons appeal to you and beg you in the name of humanity, justice and truth to tell the whole world of their tragic fate; to proclaim that 30,000 innocent Greeks have been doomed to certain death.

"We, their tormented mothers, wives and sisters, once again appeal in desperation to you who stopped the executions last year - help us.

"We beg you to read out in the General Assembly meeting the memoranda which we and the prisoners have sent you.

"We call upon the United Nations to supply the only just solution for the Greek question; free all prisoners and let them return to their homes, so that Greece may once again find peace and that her people may rid themselves of the nightmare of impending civil war, so that we may heal our wounds and rebuild our ruins.

V. Mendzakopoulou, A. Barbounaki, K. Zakharitou,  
S. Adamopoulou, T. Glezou, S. Sotirakou, A. Psychas,  
M. Muratidou, D. Founta, S. Filis, M. Potamianou,  
P. Bena, E. Iliopoulou, M. Botouna, M. Velianitou."

I consider it my duty to bring the contents of this document to the knowledge of the delegations to this session of the General Assembly, and therefore request you to arrange for my letter to be distributed to all delegations as a General Assembly document.

(Signed) A. VYSHINSKY  
Chairman of the Delegation of the  
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

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