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THREATS TO THE POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE
AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF
GREECE

Letter dated 12 November to the President of
the General Assembly from the Representative
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United Nations

Paris, 12 November 1951

I have received a telegram from six Greek democratic organizations regarding the penalty which the Athens special military court is about to impose on Nicos Beloyannis, a militant of the Greek national resistance, and on ninety-two other Greek patriots.

The text of the telegram is as follows:

"The trial of Nicos Beloyannis, a hero of our national resistance movement, and of ninety-two other Greek patriotic members of the resistance is at present taking place before the Athens special military court. The Athens Government on the instructions of the American occupying forces, has decided to sentence to death and to execute Nicos Beloyannis and several other patriots on trial with him. This is the reason why the Government has postponed the abolition of the special courts martial, which it had already decided upon. The lives of Beloyannis and of his fellow prisoners are in immediate danger. We call upon you for help and beg you to intervene without delay to save these militants, dedicated to the people's cause, from certain death. Once again the Greek people awaits the help of all men of good will to snatch Beloyannis and the other accused from the grip of their executioners and to bring about the repeal of the Fascist law and measures, such as Act 509, which have made Greece

a graveyard. We beg you to intervene and to stay the hand of the Athens assassins.

(Signed) Costas Theos, Secretary, for the elected executive of the Greek General Confederation of Labour; Stefanos Savidis, Chairman, for the elected executive of the Panhellenic Confederation of Unions of Agricultural Co-operatives; Roula Coucoulou, Secretary, for the Greek Democratic Women's Union; Nicos Acritidis, Secretary, for the United Panhellenic Youth Organization (EPON); Miltiadis Porifoyennis, Chairman, for the Union of Greek Jurists; Vassos Georgiou, for the Union of Democratic Journalists."

In communicating the text of the above telegram I have the honour, Mr. President, to request you to be guided by the humane approach to the question of the protection of the victims of political terror in Greece adopted at the third and fourth sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and to take prompt steps through the United Nations to save Nicos Beloyannis and the other militants of the Greek resistance lying under sentence of death and in immediate danger of their lives.

Kindly issue my letter as a General Assembly document and distribute it to the delegations to the United Nations.

(Signed) J. MALIK
Representative of the Union of
Soviet Socialist Republics to
the United Nations.