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## REPATRIATION OF GREEK CHILDREN

Letter dated 5 June 1951 from the representative  
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations  
to the President of the General Assembly

New York, 5 June 1951

The permanent mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations has received from Budapest two telegrams from parents of Greek children, energetically protesting against the forthcoming despatch of 220 Greek children from Yugoslavia to Greece without their parents' consent, and demanding the return from Greece of the 51 children sent there on 14 March 1951 without their parents' knowledge. The telegrams read as follows:

I "WE HAVE LEARNED WITH INDIGNATION THAT OUR TWO CHILDREN, EVANGHELIA DIMOPOULOU, AGED 14, AND CHRISTOS DIMOPOULOS, AGED 4, OF THE VILLAGE OF MILIONA PRESPAS, ARE AMONG THE 51 CHILDREN HANDED OVER ON 14 MARCH 1951 BY THE BELGRADE GOVERNMENT TO THE ATHENS MONARCHO-FASCIST GOVERNMENT. WE HAVE REPEATEDLY DEMANDED THAT OUR CHILDREN SHOULD BE RETURNED TO US IN THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES. INSTEAD OF THIS, AND AGAINST OUR EXPRESS WISH, OUR CHILDREN HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE ATHENS MONARCHO-FASCIST GOVERNMENT FOR CONFINEMENT IN THE RE-EDUCATION CENTRES AT KIFISSIA AND DELEROS. WE STRONGLY PROTEST AGAINST THIS CRIMINAL ACT BY THE YUGOSLAV AND SWEDISH RED CROSS AND THE BELGRADE GOVERNMENT AND CALL UPON YOU TO TAKE ACTION TO ENSURE THAT OUR CHILDREN ARE RETURNED TO US, THEIR PARENTS, BY THE MONARCHO-FASCIST GOVERNMENT TO WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN DELIVERED. WE APPEAL TO YOUR HUMANITARIAN SENTIMENTS AND BEG YOU TO HELP US TO SAVE OUR CHILDREN. SIGNED ALEXANDROS DIMOPOULOS AND VELIKA DIMOPOULOU".

II "THE STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SWEDISH RED CROSS THAT THE BELGRADE GOVERNMENT IS PREPARING TO HAND OVER ANOTHER 220 CHILDREN OF GREEK DEMOCRATS TO THE ATHENS MONARCHO-FASCIST GOVERNMENT HAS CAUSED THE DEEPEST INDIGNATION IN OUR RANKS. IN THE NAME OF THE 640 PARENTS IN THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES WHO HAVE CHILDREN IN YUGOSLAVIA WE ENERGETICALLY PROTEST AGAINST THE CONTINUOUS CRIME WHICH IS BEING COMMITTED BY THE BELGRADE GOVERNMENT WITH THE COMPLICITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL AND SWEDISH RED CROSS, IN DELIVERING OUR CHILDREN INTO THE HANDS OF THEIR EXECUTIONERS. WE DEMAND YOU TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO SAVE THESE CHILDREN FROM CERTAIN EXTERMINATION IN THE MONARCHO-FASCIST CAMPS AND TO SECURE THEIR RETURN TO THEIR PARENTS IN THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES. IN THE NAME OF THE 640 PARENTS. SIGNED AGRIPOPOULOS VAHINIS, DIMOPOULOS ALEXANDROS, DIMOPOULOU VELIKA, THEODORA AND PAMELIS GOTSIF, ALEXANDROS YAGOU SIFTA, DAMOVSKA SOFIA, KARIOFILIDIS DIMITRIS, TSITSIS KIRIAKOS YORDANIDIS SAVAS, BARKOPOULOS VASSILIS, LELIFANOVA KITSIA, RALIS EFTIMIOS, MARKOPOULOU MARIA, VAVIZA ZOI, STERVIU BOGOYAS, XANTOPOULOS GEORGES, KAROTSAREAS NIKOS, KARDIDIS LEONIDAS, DACUTIS GEORGES, VASSILIOU YANNIS, MANAVIS KOSTAS."

I request you, Mr. President, to issue my letter as a General Assembly document and to circulate it to all delegations to the United Nations

(signed) Y. MALIK