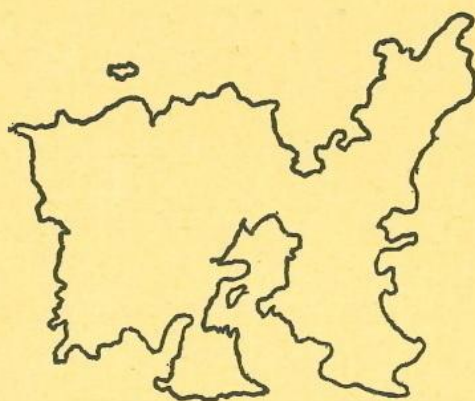


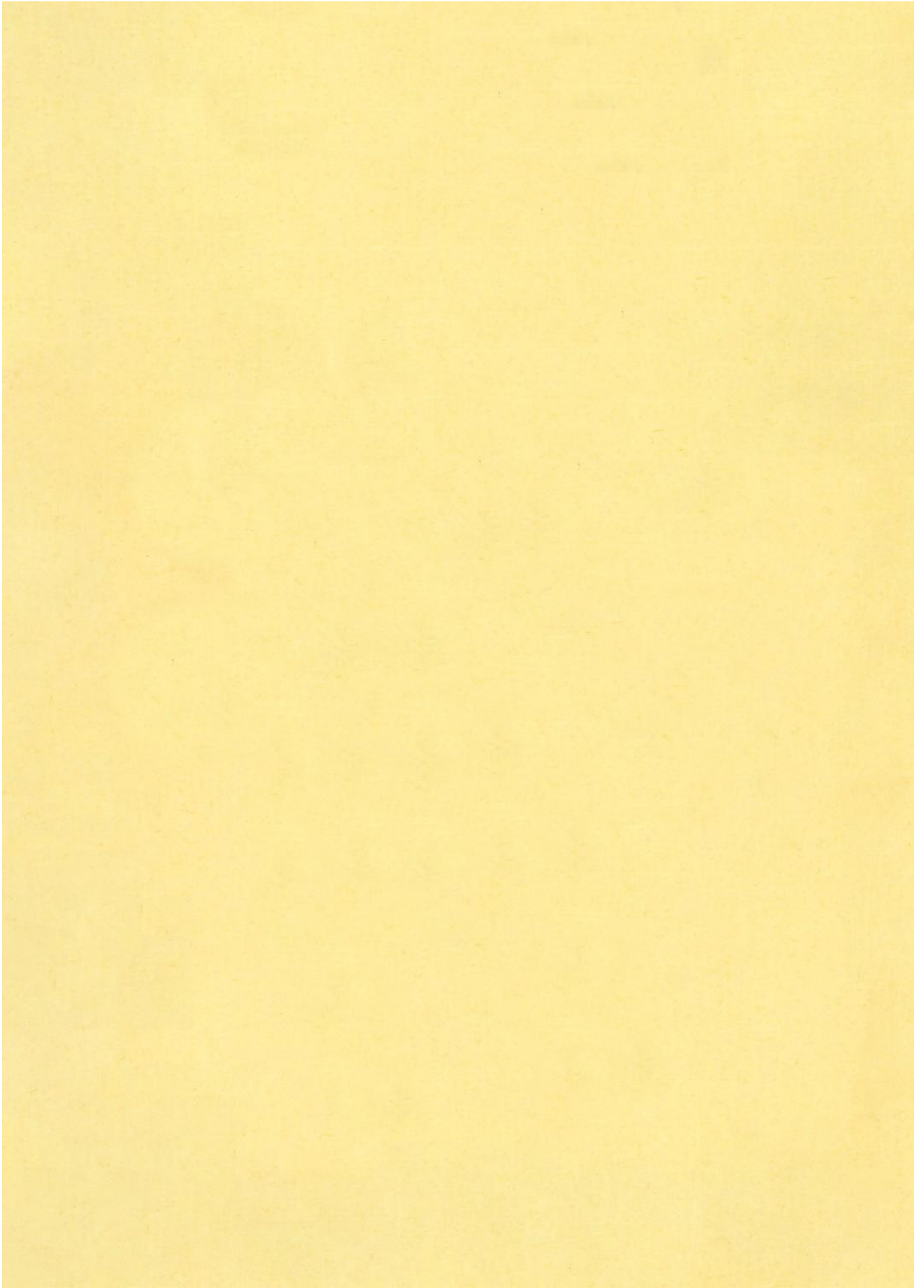
LEONIDAS N. GERONDOUDIS

LEMNOS ISLAND

DIALECT - HISTORY - FOLKLORE



ATHENS 1971



LEONIDAS N. GERONDOUDIS

THE ISLAND OF
LEMINOS

HISTORY: From the Most Ancient Times Until Today

DIALECT: Prose/ Free Lemnian Verse / Grammar / Lexicon

Athens 1971

In Memory of Our Parents from Kontiaç

NIKITAS AND CHRYSANTHI

And Our Late Brother in Florence

CHRISTOFOROS

IN LIEU OF A PREFACE

The original purpose of the present work was to present in the first part the Grammar of the Lemnian Dialect, in the second part its Prose Literature, and in the third part the free Lemnian Verse — that is, the Lemnian Dialect bequeathed to the liberated Lemnians on the 8th of October 1912 in all its manifestations. Toward this goal, we labored diligently for nine years on the first part and three years on the second, when — enthusiastically and without our knowledge — the professor, writer, and Headmaster of Lemnos, Mr. Dimitrios Mantzouranis, made it known through a publication in the “Lesbian Chronicles” of Mytilene, as follows:

THE LEMNIAN FOLK SONG

— Konstantis, (the first Palikari) the first stout hearted

Mr. Leonidas Gerontoudis has prepared a book with folklore and historical themes written in verse in the Lemnian Dialect. As a preface to his book, he presents the grammar of the language he employs.

The publication of this book is of value to Lemnos and, more broadly, to Greece.

The piece being published consists of excerpts from a folk song that the author preserved from an elderly Lemnian villager and which, unfortunately, due to lack of space, we are unable to publish in its entirety.

DIMITRIOS P. MANTZOURANIS

Honored and encouraged by this, we intensified our efforts to enrich the present work and undertook the writing of the fourth volume as well, convinced that through the addition of the historical section, we more fully discharge the tribute of the highest honor and gratitude owed by us to the most ancient inhabitants of Lemnos and to our ancestors who lived under the subjugation of the Turks.

The Lemnians boasting that through their veins flowed Greek blood — and indeed the blood

newspaper “Lesbian Chronicles,” Year A’, Issue No. 5 – August 1, 1952)

of the Argonauts, and believing unshakably in the recovery of their lost freedom, they did not endure with fatalistic submission the yoke of Turkish barbarism upon their necks. They continued with passion to be taught — in the open air, or in the sheepfolds of Turkish farms which were cultivated by Lemnian farmers, or in underground cellars by the faint light of a small lamp — the Greek script and their mother tongue, looking toward one goal and longing for one thing: to remain Greeks.

Wishing to make this clearly known, we came into direct contact with the inhabitants of the Island and, having gathered together a rich collection of folkloric material, we devoted ourselves to the composition of the unified Lemnian Dialect, as it is understood and spoken by all Lemnians. In order to render its various expressions more vividly, and so that our entire work may be more easily understood and prove useful to scholars — whose forgiveness and indulgence we invoke — we divided it into four parts:

a) the History of Lemnos from ancient times to the present day;

b) Prose through dialogues, some of which we published in our newspaper “**Foni tis Limnou**” (“Voice of Lemnos”) in the years 1946–1947–1948–1949–1950;)

c) Free Lemnian Verse, Myths, Songs, and all the dances set to music through our efforts; and

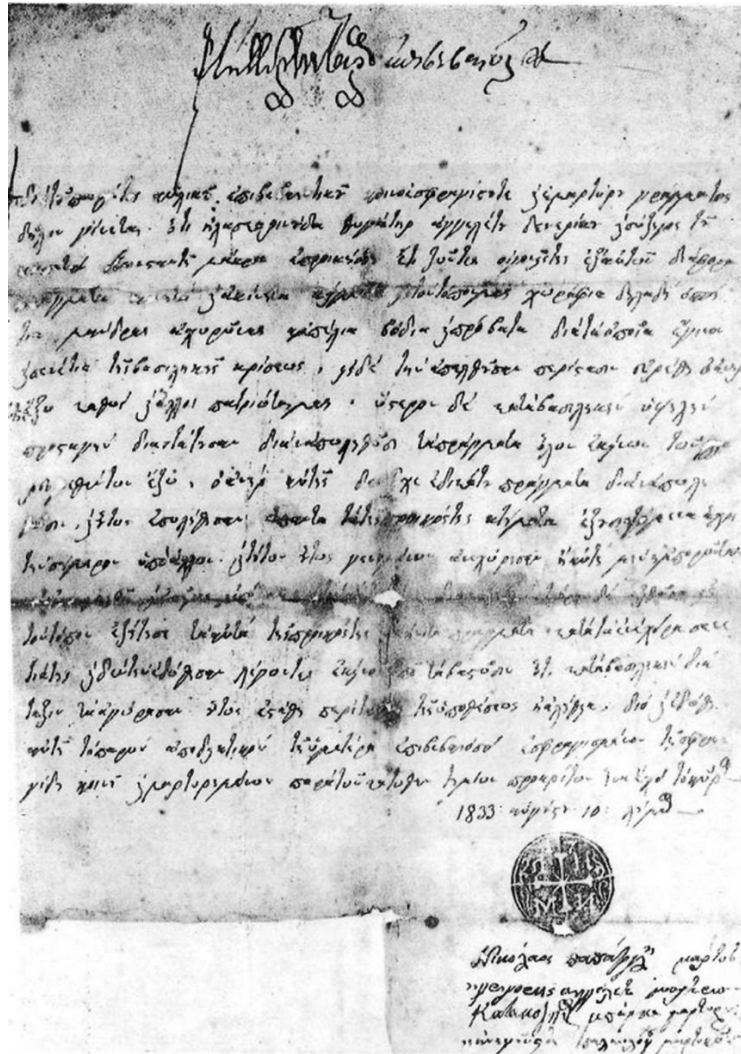
d) the Grammar of the Lemnian Dialect, compiled by us for the first time without any assistance whatsoever, in which we included diminutives, proverbs, sayings, insults, curses, oaths, blessings, and the pronunciation of numbers.

We also considered it appropriate to include in the present work two documents of interest: a Certificate of the Most Reverend Metropolitan of Lemnos, Nektarios, dated 1833, and a Declaration by Konstantis Ntenerikos dated 1838 — both pertaining to the era of the proclamation of Greece as a free state, during which, as the attentive reader will observe, the literate but enslaved Lemnians, being unable to express themselves fully in the Greek language, made use in semi-official documents of words and phrases in Turkish — and also pertaining to property disputes between the maternal ancestors of ours, and specifically Captain Konstantinos Makras, the first among Lemnian seafarers to have sailed to Australia on his own sailing vessel, in the year 1867.

Since from the text of parts a), b), and c) of the book it is abundantly proven that the Lemnians, over 443 years of servitude, preserved to a great extent the substance of their words and succeeded in bequeathing to us one of the purest Greek dialects, we offer the present work with pride to every good Lemnian who honors the memory of his forefathers — as a page of the history of his small homeland and as a handbook of the spoken Lemnian dialect, upon which time day by day inflicts the decay and transformation that comes with evolution.

In Kontias, on the island of Lemnos, 17 August 1943

LEONIDAS N. GERONTOUDIS



THE ABOVE DOCUMENT READS PRECISELY AS FOLLOWS:

Nektarios of Lemnos hereby confirms:

By means of this present courtly, confirmatory, jointly-sealed and witnessed letter, it is made known that Laskarinouda, daughter of Angeletos Denerikos and wife of Captain Kostantis Makras, was given a dowry.

While her parents were still living, she received from them various movable and immovable properties situated in our place — namely fields, houses, sheepfolds, haystacks, vineyards, oxen and sheep — for which deeds of royal judgment were also drawn up. However, when the ensuing circumstances arose, her husband was found to be abroad, as were other of our fellow countrymen. Subsequently, by royal high command ordering that the properties of all those found to be absent abroad be sold, her husband had no properties of his own to be sold, and so all the properties of her dowry were sold and have been held under the control of others until this day. These things having thus come to pass, she too departed, being unable to sustain herself, and went and made her way to her husband in order to live. Now, having returned to the place, she sought the same immovable properties of her dowry in accordance with her mortgage deeds, but they were not returned to her — those who hold them claiming that they purchased them by royal decree.

Such is the truth of this matter, and therefore this attestation has been given to her, sealed with your confirmation under the common seal and witnessed by the undersigned honourable notables, so that it may have legal force.

1833, August 10, Lemnos

Nikolaos Papazoglou, witness Gérgoeüs Angeléto, I bear witness Katakozinos Parka, I bear witness Anegnóstis Palaiologou, I bear witness. **Notes:** This is a bishop's certificate attesting to the circumstances of a woman named Laskarinouda, whose dowry properties were confiscated and sold under a royal order, apparently during the turbulent early years of the Greek state (1833). The document was produced to support her legal claim to recover those properties.

PART ONE
HISTORY OF LEMNOS
FROM THE MOST ANCIENT TIMES TO THE PRESENT DAY
MYTHOLOGY – PREHISTORY

From thorough studies conducted on numerous stone finds from archaeological excavations, we know that around the end of the Palaeolithic or the beginning of the Neolithic era, the island of Lemnos — which dominates the northern Aegean — was inhabited by peace-loving people. From their primitive works we are fully persuaded of their first steps toward civilization, for they had ceased to live exclusively by hunting. They had learned to cultivate the land, to raise domestic animals and birds, and furthermore to smooth stone.

The place upon which they have left the most numerous traces of their settlement on Lemnos is the coastal promontory of the island's capital,



Left - Mount Athos as seen at sunset from the shore of Myrina ("Romeikos Gialos")



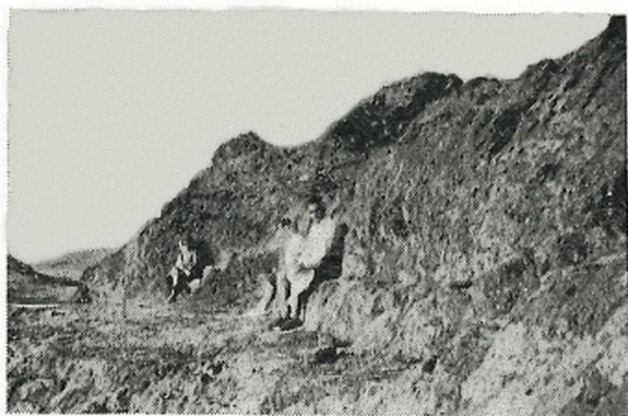
Right - The first two-sided rooms conceived by man.

Myrina, upon which the Venetian fortress stands. These remains, having lain in obscurity for entire millennia, were uncovered a decade ago by a distinguished Lemnian who had settled in Egypt — an archaeologist of the Pharaonic era, Mr. Tryphon Marangos of Myrina — who summoned the authorities to the site so that they might confirm a prehistoric discovery of the greatest importance.

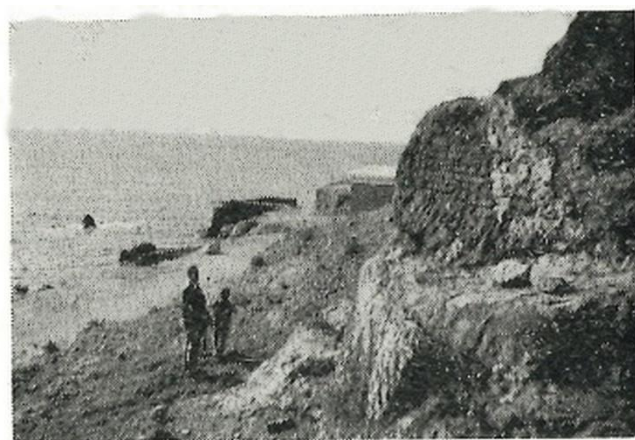
This hill, situated opposite Mount Athos, rises to a height of approximately 100 metres,

...a perimeter of approximately 1,000 m., which separates the magnificent sandy beach of the "Romeikos Gialos" from the commercial harbour of the "Turkikos Gialos" by means of its extension of 300 metres into the sea. Upon this promontory, when the prehistoric inhabitants of the island of Lemnos were unable to excavate a cave, they contented themselves with cutting large rocks, which they shaped into two-sided forms of right-angled triangles. They then chiseled the two faces and the floor, and finally roofed their two-sided dwelling with assembled trunks of saplings and branches. That a roof was indispensable to them is demonstrated by the hole which one of the sides bears at its upper part, and by another such hole which the chiseled floor carries. Into the first was fitted the beam which supported the roof, and into the second the post which braced the beam.

The visitor encounters upon the hillock not only large rocks hewn in this manner — forming what are, in our opinion, the first rooms ever devised by prehistoric man — but also small and large stone couches, thrones — here one, there two joined together — worn steps roughly shaped upon large



One of the carved stone couches upon the Venetian fortress of Myrina.



The inscription seen from a short distance.

rocks, chiseled spacious floors, and narrow channels carved into rocky slopes, conveying rainwater from the higher points to various hollows around the hillock, the interiors of which resemble the inside of a storage jar (pithos).

To one who examines with care this so painstakingly executed work, the question easily arises as to how these people managed to carry out such undertakings in an age when even the very existence of iron was unknown. Their origin and the duration of their sojourn on the island are questions which will never receive an answer. The fact, however, that people of the Neolithic Age lived for whole millennia upon an islet such as Lemnos is of the greatest significance.

In addition to what we have described, Mr. Maragos also discovered three inscriptions. Of these, the two smaller ones, owing to the extensive deterioration they have suffered, present no interest. The third, however — the largest and closest to the harbour breakwater, on the right as one ascends — is of great historical value for Lemnos. Upon it is depicted a small vessel with many oars, skilfully drawn upon a chiseled rock. What meaning this depiction holds, and when approximately it was made, remain unknown. Our personal view is that the inhabitants of Lemnos at that time, having been compelled to abandon it against their will, *[Text continues on next page]*

conceived the idea of immortalising the loss of their birthplace by depicting a small boat. And the reason for their flight? Perhaps the establishment on the Island of a new and more populous tribe, with whom they were afraid to come into conflict. Since this inscription is in danger of suffering irreparable damage, like the two smaller ones mentioned above, the Lemnians have a duty to ensure it is transferred to the Museum of Lemnos as soon as possible. It is a most sacred heirloom, representing a legacy handed down from their most ancient ancestors.

The above-described works of the prehistoric ancestors of the modern Lemnians can be admired on the fortress of Myrina, the "Kastron", which for five years has been protected by barbed wire fencing, thanks to the efforts of the agricultural officer of Lemnos, Mr. Emm. Prevelakis, who also serves as President of the Lemnos Philodasiki Committee.

The 5th, 4th and 3rd Millennia BC

The first excavations ever conducted on Lemnos, under the direction of the late Italian professor of archaeology Alessandro Della Seta in 1937 at the site of "Poliochni", situated in the south-eastern part of the Island opposite Troy, demonstrated that the first inhabitants of Lemnos were not the Sinties, as had been believed until forty years earlier. They were preceded by another populous tribe, established on the island during the 5th or 6th millennium BC, whose origin remains unknown. Nevertheless, we put forward the opinion that the tribe which settled in the south-eastern, north-eastern and northern parts of Lemnos during the 6th or 5th millennium BC was related to those who settled in the Troad of Asia Minor about a thousand years later, and perhaps also to the Phoenicians and other Semitic peoples who appeared in the 3rd millennium BC.

The Trojans who settled in the Troad in the 4th millennium BC — as has been maintained by all the archaeologists who conducted excavations at Troy, namely Enrico Schliemann, G. Dörpfeld, H. Schmidt, Carl Blegen — built Troy around 3000 BC. This was also accepted and supported later by Alessandro Della Seta and his associates Doro Levi and Luigi Bernabò Brea, who so successfully conducted the excavations at Poliochni, Hephastia and Chloe.

During the excavations at Poliochni, carried out by Dr. Bernabò Brea, three layers of ruins were uncovered older than the first Troy, which was built, as we have noted, around 3000 BC. The oldest of these layers was named "Black". The next one was called "Blue" and the third "Green". Above the "Green" lay the "Red" layer of ruins, which is contemporary with the first Troy. The "Poliochni" corresponding to the second Troy was a city with good organisation, wealthy houses, streets, wells, and even sewage systems. And as everyone agrees, no Mediterranean city of the same period (2600–2300 BC) had such complete organisation.

At Poliochni of that same period, a treasure of a woman's gold jewellery was also discovered, which for security reasons is displayed in the "Lemnos Hall" of the National Archaeological Museum of Athens on Patission Street. Such jewellery was also found during the excavations at Troy.

After what we have mentioned above regarding the prehistoric period of Lemnos, we recommend that those visiting the island call at its Archaeological Museum, so that they may admire the remarkable finds on display from all eras, and at the same time read the highly instructive works relating to these archaeological finds by Alessandro Della Seta, Doro Levi, and Dr. Luigi Bernabò Brea — the last of these a three-volume work of the greatest interest. Unfortunately, the excavations on Lemnos were confined mainly to the area of Poliochni, to a lesser extent to Hephaistia, and barely at all to Chloe. We therefore do not know what surprises await us at the various locations on the Island identified both by the Italian archaeologists — especially Dr. Luigi Bernabò Brea — and by the archaeologist of the Pharaonic period, Lemnian Mr. Tryphon Maragos, who works with zeal and tirelessness to bring out and showcase Lemnos as an island with a captivating mythology and a history of the greatest interest.

The excavations due to the Italian Archaeological School of Athens began in 1926 under the direction of the late professor of Archaeology Alessandro Della Seta at Hephaistia, near the village of “Kontopoulio”, with the participation of the then curator of antiquities of the Archipelago Stratis Paraskevaïdis and the Director of Antiquities of Greece Ioannis Kontis. They were interrupted in 1930, to resume in 1937 at Poliochni and Chloe, when they were again interrupted on account of World War II.

They resumed after the war in 1951 under Dr. Luigi Bernabò Brea, Curator of Antiquities of Eastern Sicily and Director of the Syracuse Museum, at Poliochni, which prehistoric settlement lies about one and a half hours from Hephaistia. They were completed in 1959, when the transfer and concentration of finds to the Museum began — from the village of Kaminia, from Athens, and from Mytilene, transported by motorboats — as a result of which many of them were lost, broken, and damaged during the lengthy voyage. Their display in the Lemnos Museum was carried out with great care in 1961 by a specialist team of Italian men and women from the Italian Archaeological School of Athens.

In the same year, during the government of Konstantinos Karamanlis, the inauguration of the Museum was held, graced by the presence of the then Minister to the Prime Minister Mr. Konstantinos Tsatsos, who delivered a highly detailed and impressive speech in fluent and faultless Italian, the Italian Ambassador, the Italian Consul, the Director of the Italian Archaeological School of Athens Mr. Doro Levi, Dr. Luigi Bernabò Brea, the Mayor of Myrina Mr. Anastasios Pappas with his councilors, the President of the Union of Lemnians of Athens–Piraeus Mr. Antonios Papanikolaou, the other authorities of the Island, and thousands of Lemnians from all the villages.

The civilisation of Lemnos flourished rapidly until 1500 BC, and the commercial relations and dealings of its inhabitants with the Phoenicians, Cretans, and Phrygians contributed greatly to their becoming a notable naval power of the Northern Aegean, with a small fleet. Unfortunately, the rapid pace of their progress towards civilisation was abruptly halted, because around 1500 BC great and devastating earthquakes spread destruction throughout the entire Eastern Mediterranean,

from the shores of Thrace, Asia Minor, and Chalkidike to North Africa. Then the flourishing cities and villages of Lemnos were laid to ruin; then a large part of the island was submerged, including the site of Mythones and also a very large portion of the site on which Mount Hermaion once rose.

About 500 metres from the shore of the north-easternmost village of Lemnos, "Plaka", in the direction of the island of Tenedos, and when the sea is calm, one can make out with the naked eye, at a depth of 6, 7, and 8 metres, the buildings of the old fortress of Palaiokastro.

Even more easily, when the sea is calm, and at a depth of only one to two metres, the ancient buildings of the oldest city of Lemnos, "Mythones", can be distinguished. This lies at a distance of 12 nautical miles from the same shore of the village of Plaka in the same direction but slightly further north, that is, between Imbros and Tenedos.

The French mineralogist Ferdinand Fouqué, professor at Paris, in his works on "Micrographic Mineralogy" and "Composition of Minerals and Bodies" in collaboration with M. Levy, notes that at that time, around 1500 BC, the eruption of the volcano on the island of Thera also occurred, which shook the Southern Aegean. He further informs us that the tremor was so violent that it swept away and obliterated two-thirds of the entire extent of the Island, which, while it had been round, after the earthquake took on the shape of a crescent. If during that very powerful upheaval — when the lands across the Aegean were being raised and lowered — the volcano of Lemnos, Mosychlon, also erupted, undoubtedly its action became the cause of even greater destruction of its surface, and ultimately of its own extinction and deadening.

Thus, many lands were left deserted. Lemnos, perhaps in a far worse condition, presents the appearance of a dead island. No manifestation of life upon it is mentioned whatsoever by History for the following three or four centuries, nor do we have any finds from that period through excavations. As the sole source of information, the Homeric Epics appear to us later, informing us that in the 12th or 13th century BC — the era of the displacement of the related Indo-Germanic tribes and the mass descent of various peoples from north to south into the Mediterranean basin — a small tribe inhabited Lemnos, the tribe of the "SAVAGE-VOICED SINTIES", known in antiquity as the earliest inhabitants of Lemnos.

The 2nd and 1st Millennia BC

THE SINTIES

Regarding the origin and settlement on Lemnos of its most ancient inhabitants, the Sinties — known to both Homer and most ancient poets and writers — the views of post-Christian historians diverge. Some of them go as far as to consider the Sinties as the retinue of Hephaestus, as is supposed of the Telchines and the Kabeiroi, i.e. mythological figures, while all pre-Christian historians, poets and writers — such as Homer, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Herodotus, Aristotle, Strabo, Philostratus and others — accept and mention the Sinties as the most ancient inhabitants of Lemnos.

Before the waves of Aryans (Indo-Europeans) set out from the Caucasus of southern India, Afghanistan, Baluchistan, and Iran to flood Europe, the tribe of the Assyrians, established to the south-west of the Zagros Mountain range and between the middle course of the Tigris River and Babylonia, had embarked on a great aggressive war from the 24th century BC against many powerful and weak enemies alike. For almost two millennia they knew no defeat, and at the period of their brilliant glory, around 1400 BC, we know that the Assyrians worked iron and other metals. How long before that they had been engaged in metallurgy is unknown. Contenting ourselves with the above date, we have formed the opinion that the Sinties, so famed for their working of metals, long before the Trojan



The beach of Romeikos Gialos, part of the capital, the village of Androni, and the cotton gin as seen from the Venetian fortress.

War, had been influenced by prolonged contact with various peoples of Asia and Asia Minor, and furthermore that, having been defeated by the Assyrians, they set out from Asia Minor for Lemnos. The opinion of some historians regarding the Sinties' origin from Thrace is not acceptable, just as the view does not hold of those historians who maintain that the Sinties were a tribe related to the Phrygians, because the Phrygians were a people related to the Thracians — peaceful and incapable of waging war. They inclined towards mysticism and fantastical ideas, and as has been demonstrated by archaeological finds, their migration took place around 1200 BC from the Greek peninsula into the valley of the Sangarios in Asia Minor; and only towards the end of the 7th century BC, as the mighty Assyrian State was collapsing, did the Phrygians extend westward to the Euxine Pontus. They were artists and knowledgeable in wine-making and metallurgy, and Homer records that during the siege of Troy by the Greeks the Phrygians were loyal allies of its king Priam.

To accept that the Sinties learned metallurgy from the Phrygians, we would need to push back their colonisation of the valley of the Sangarios by at least three centuries earlier, whereas as is known to historians, the Phrygian tribe set out from Thrace around 1200 BC, at which time the Sinties — long established on Lemnos — were known throughout the Aegean. They had attained certain levels of civilisation, cultivated the vine, produced wine, constituted a small but powerful naval force, and most importantly, they excelled among the first in the working of metals, to such a degree that, according to mythology, it was to them, through the god Hephaestus, that the armour of Achilles was commissioned.

As was to be expected, the Sinties who migrated to Lemnos in successive waves found it deserted, with cities and villages in ruins. However, the tranquil vegetation, the picturesque bays, the many beautiful sandy beaches greatly pleased them, and so they decided to settle there permanently. But where? Which locations on the island did they favour? On the ruins of cities and settlements that had flourished some three centuries earlier? In the recesses of bays? In plains? On the tops of hillocks or on their slopes? Where did they have their ironworks? What were their household utensils, their tools and weapons? These questions are very regrettable for Lemnos to leave unanswered. However, since it has been proved that the Sinties dwelt on Lemnos for many centuries, we will set out their affairs in detail, all the more so because we, as Lemnians, burn with the desire to bequeath to our descendants the information which we have painstakingly gathered during our years of research.

We said above that the Sinties, who came by rafts from Asia Minor, arrived and settled on Lemnos around 1300 BC, and that we do not know where they lived, what appearance their dwellings had, and what their tools, utensils, and weapons were. To find out, many locations must be excavated, some of which have already been identified, such as Mikro Kastelli, Axia, Trochalia, and Vriokastro. These should be identified by scholars, experienced historical archaeologists, as did the late Italian Professor of Archaeology Alessandro Della Seta, to whom the excavations conducted to date are owed. In order for Lemnians to lend their assistance, it would be advisable, we think, for Communities to maintain henceforth a register in which the respective community secretaries would record related positive information — in particular, information about sites where large hewn boulders, caves with hewn floors, stone tools, and the like are observed.

Since excavations have not been conducted on a wide scale and none of the archaeological finds have been attributed to the Sinties, we content ourselves with knowing about them what we already largely know, because it is not possible, after some 3,400 years, to learn more than what the great Homer and other ancient writers and poets, Greek and foreign, have recorded.

The island of Lemnos was named by the Lemnians — according to Homer the "savage-voiced" Sinties — in honour of their goddess *LEMNOS*, because she helped them find an ideal place to settle. From that time on it has been called *Lemnos*, and it is known by the name *Lemnos* to Homer and those who came after him. If it was called *Sinteis*, *Hypsipyleia*, *Stalimini* and such names by some writers, poets, or historians, this can have absolutely no significance.

To what extent the Sinties lived inside caves or behind large rocks that they had carved to

suit their needs, as some historians maintain, is unknown. What is certain is that we have not found any complete traces of their way of life. In any case, it seems unlikely to us that the Sintians could have lived for so many centuries under such conditions. If we were to accept this, we would also have to believe that for all those centuries they neither evolved nor became civilised, which is impossible. On the contrary, we believe that they rapidly advanced in agriculture, animal husbandry, viticulture and seafaring, and that, having progressed in the metallurgical arts, they helped bring renown to their homeland Lemnos as an advanced centre of commercial exchange — all the more so since Lemnos, as an intermediate station between Europe and Asia Minor, had frequent contact with the Phoenicians, the Cretans, the Carians and the Minyans.

Homer, writing about the Sintians, notes that they frequently received from their clients the raw materials they needed — gold, copper, iron, and so forth — as payment for their work. He also records that in order to obtain these raw materials, they offered wine of exceptional quality, which we may assume was indeed exceptional, since according to divine Homer, the god Bacchus frequently visited his friend the god Sleep, who had his seat on Lemnos.

The Sintians, though of Semitic origin, effectively repelled their enemies until the 9th century BC. Among these enemies were the Phoenicians, whom the Sintians did not accept as their patrons; accordingly, Lemnos was never a Phoenician colony or trading post — it simply fell within their sphere of influence. The Phoenicians, bearers of the most ancient civilisation in the then known world, inventors and shapers of writing and the first alphabet, founders of hundreds of cities in the Mediterranean basin, as well as of the magnificent Temple of Solomon in Jerusalem, confined themselves to commercial relations with the Sinties alone, unwilling to shed blood for the capture of the small island of Lemnos, which was determined to defend itself to the last. As was inevitable, however, Phoenician civilisation exerted its influence on the Sinties in many ways, including in religious matters.

THE SINTIES AND THE CAVIRI

The worship of the Caviri, of Phoenician origin, preceded even the worship of Hephaestus, the good lame smith who fell from Heaven. The Sinties believed that the Caviri were three male and three female, children of the god Hephaestus and of Caviro, daughter of Proteus.

The Cavirian Mysteries related to the genesis of mankind, in contrast to the Eleusinian Mysteries, which related to death and life after death. They were celebrated at night, and those initiated into them received the purple ribbon, after first making confession, so that they might wear it as a talisman against every danger.

The Sinties likewise believed that the Caviri were not evil spirits, as was believed in other cities of Greece. On the contrary, they held that the Caviri

and the Telchines together formed, the former being the staff of the god Hephaestus and the latter his workforce, and that together Caviri and Telchines strove with superhuman effort to bring forth, by pushing from the depths of the volcanoes to their craters, the power of Reproduction, which they then scattered upon the earth. They also believed that the Caviri protected their vineyards and seafaring. In confirmation of this, the tragic poet Aeschylus records that during the stay of the Argonauts on Lemnos, it was the Caviri themselves who brought wine to them.

Although the cradle of the Caviri was the island of Lemnos, the most celebrated festivals were nevertheless held on the neighbouring Samothrace and in Thebes. King Philip of Macedonia was initiated into the Cavirian Mysteries of Samothrace together with his wife Olympias, while in Thebes the Sanctuary of the Cavirian Mysteries was uncovered some years ago during excavations, in the course of which many votive offerings and sculpted objects were found.

The Lemnian Philostratus, in his work "Heroicos", describes among other things a most interesting Cavirian ceremony. The Sanctuary of the Cavirian Mysteries of Lemnos lay on the small cape of "Chloe" on the Bay of Bournia. Revealed in 1936, it was excavated by the archaeologists Luigi Bernabò Brea, A. Frova and A. Posdocimi under the direction of the late Professor of Archaeology Alessandro Della Seta. It was surrounded by long walls concealing it from the eyes of the uninitiated and, as we observe, consisted of a single hall — the "Telesterion" — inside which the sacred mysteries were revealed during their celebration. The worship of the Caviri was a mystery cult and for that reason only the initiated took part.

Besides the old Telesterion uncovered in 1936, a newer one was also revealed at the end of the excavation season of 1939. The related photographs displayed in the hall of the Archaeological Museum of Lemnos are most interesting, and even more so are the inscriptions found in marble and stone. In addition, many other notable finds came to light, dating from the seventh century BC to Byzantine times (Proto-Lemnian, Classical and Roman).

THE SINTES AND HEPHAESTOS

According to one tradition, the goddess Hera, having quarreled with her husband Zeus, gave birth to Hephaestus alone; and because he was born lame, Zeus cast him from Olympus into the sea, where he was received by Thetis and Eurynome, who raised him in the depths of the Ocean.

According to Hesiod, he became lame after falling from Heaven onto the island of Lemnos, when Zeus — angered during a quarrel with his wife Hera because Hephaestus had sided with his mother — seized him by the foot and hurled him from Olympus. According to Homer, he was the son of Zeus and Hera. In mythological times he was worshipped as the god of fire and consequently as the greatest of smiths.

The god Hephaestus, having fallen upon Lemnos according to Mythology, was cared for and nursed back to health by the inhabitants of the island, the Sinties, because the god whom they honoured above all others was Hephaestus himself; and once healed, he established

his workshop near the volcanic mountain Mosychlos, with Kedalion of Naxos, master of the art of bronze-working, as his assistant.

On the spot where he fell from Heaven, after wandering for an entire day, the Sinties in his honour founded a magnificent temple with officiating priest and priestess, after which annual nine-day festivals — the Hephaesteia — were celebrated; during these, fire was extinguished throughout the entire Island, which remained in darkness, sometimes even beyond the nine days, until the Delian Ship brought the new fire from the island of Delos.

During the Hephaesteia, torch races also took place. This is not only supported by ancient and later historians, but has recently been confirmed by coins found at various points on Lemnos, on which torches are depicted — sometimes one, sometimes two.

But most significantly of all, the Sinties, who worshipped the god Hephaestus, built in his honour the city of Hephaestia, from whose excavations many notable finds came to light; these are displayed on the first floor of the Museum of Lemnos.

THE SINTIES AND CHRYSE

Another deity worshipped by the Lemnian Sinties was the goddess Chryse, whose altar stood on the islet of Chryse — of the same name — situated very close to Lemnos and later submerged together with Mount Hermaion. She was worshipped as the goddess of the light of night, and for this reason she bears two stars upon her breast.

Concerning her, the historian Meinrich believes that she was worshipped from ancient times by the Sinties, and that in her honour they also named the adjacent islet Chryse, where gold was mined. On this island, Philoctetes — lord of Meliboea and bosom friend of Heracles — received from him the arrows dipped in the blood of the Lernaean Hydra and hid them there, having promised to reveal their hiding place to no one. On this same islet, later, wishing to show the Greeks travelling with him to Troy the altar of the goddess Chryse, he was bitten by the sacred serpent guarding it. Because an unbearable stench arose from his wound, the Greeks abandoned Philoctetes on Lemnos. When the Achaeans remembered him after the passage of years, they sent to Lemnos Odysseus and the son of Achilles, Neoptolemus. When the grievously suffering Philoctetes recognised them, he implored them to burn him alive so that his pain might cease, since natural death — so longed for by him — did not come. The two heroes, however, did not comply with his wish, but carried him away while his groans echoed against the neighbouring Mount Hermaion. In Troy he was healed by the sons of Asclepius, Machaon and Podaleirios. Two years after his recovery, having learned that Troy would be taken only when the arrows of Heracles were used, he hastened to show the Greeks the hiding place on the islet of Chryse, near the tomb of Heracles. Subsequently, during the days of the capture and sack of Troy by the Greeks, Philoctetes slew many heroes of the Iliad, among them Paris. The precise date of the submersion of the islet of Chryse — as a consequence of the most powerful seismic tremors in the North Aegean — is not known to us. What is certain is that in the time of Pausanias it no longer existed.

THE SINTIES AND OTHER DEITIES

In later times the Sinties, as polytheists, began also to worship Artemis, Hermes, Bacchus, Apollo and Ares. Some ancient historians believe that the worship of the goddess Artemis was the most ancient after that of the goddess Lemnos, and that from the earliest times human sacrifices were offered to the goddess Artemis.

The god Dionysus, or Bacchus, was then worshipped by the Lemnians as the patron god of the vineyards, while he was also honoured as the father of their first king, Thoas.

Coins found at Hephaestia depict the head of Bacchus and other symbols related to the worship of this same god.

The Lemnians worshipped Hermes as the protector of agriculture and animal husbandry. Ares was worshipped, as in the rest of Greece, as the god of war.

Among the deities worshipped by the Lemnians were also included Heracles, Sleep, and the Orgeones. In honour of Heracles, they raised a magnificent temple at Komi, the ruins of which survive to this day.

The worship of the god Sleep is attributed by some historians to the blissful and deep slumber into which the Lemnians surrendered themselves after drinking wine — a very common practice among them, owing to the abundant and exceptionally fine wine they produced. They also recognised the god Sleep as king of gods and men and as the brother of Death and Night.

In addition to the above-mentioned deities, there also existed on Lemnos the religious association of the Orgeones, whose patron was Heracles. Those initiated into the Orgeones belonged to the worship of Bacchus or Artemis; from two Orgeonic inscriptions discovered by the late Argyrios Moschidis, we know that this religious association was recognised also by the state.

In historical times, the goddess Athena and the god Apollo were also worshipped. In those classical times, the Lemnians were devout but also superstitious and credulous. Concerning their credulity, a certain myth recounted by Aristotle — the greatest philosopher of Antiquity — says that because a certain god told a certain Lemnian that he would find treasure, it spread instantly and was believed throughout all of Lemnos that his goat had begun to produce milk — so much so that from it an entire cheese could be made. The fault of credulity is, unfortunately, very much developed today as well, and is exploited chiefly by those few who are base in character, those suffering incurably from fear, and the petty-minded — those lacking self-knowledge — especially the last, since in their pursuit to occupy social positions which they occupy undeservedly, lacking worthy rivals, they shamelessly slander individuals of the highest moral integrity and upright character who despise or hold them in contempt.

From the end of the Second World War onward, the astonishing slanders and malicious rumours are forged in communist smithies, so as to push to the margins those Lemnians who develop patriotic activity — aided also by certain naive, shallow, and unreflective nationalists.

These latter, self-interested and disagreeable individuals, in their communist phobia, believe that when their homeland Greece is devoured by the Slavo-communist monster, they will reap the rewards of the traitor, the agent, or the one who has maintained a passive stance toward Greece, and that they will live as in an earthly paradise, occupying offices and positions of honour. Their reason has abandoned them, which is why they cannot reflect upon and take to heart the fact that: if their glorious homeland becomes a footstool for the criminal terrorist mafia of the Kremlin, they will be — in every respect and at all times, until their very death — the scapegoats of the neighbouring barbarian enemies of their homeland: Albanians, Bulgarians, and so forth.

THE ARGONAUTS

Around 1250 BC the king of Lemnos was **Thoas**, son of Bacchus and Ariadne. His wife was **Myrina**, daughter of Cretheus king of Iolcos, and his daughter was **Hypsipyle**, later queen of Lemnos and wife of **Jason**.

At that time, following a successful outcome of their operations in the North Aegean, the king of Crete Rhadamanthys was returning with his fleet and put in at Lemnos. Because the Lemnians gave him a warm welcome and hospitality, he was so pleased that he bestowed upon them as king Thoas — the finest of his allied commanders — during whose reign Lemnos flourished to the degree that a second city, **Hephaestia** or **Hephaestiada**, was also built; accordingly, it was thenceforth called Dipolis. The maritime supremacy of the Cretans during that era, from 1350 to 1000 BC, extended over all the islands of the Aegean, and it was therefore natural that significant commercial relations developed between Cretans and Lemnians.

Unfortunately, during the reign of Thoas, the Lemnian women — punished by the goddess Aphrodite for not worshipping or honouring her — became so repulsive, owing to an unbearable stench emanating according to some from their armpits and according to others from their mouths, that their husbands, unable to endure them, were compelled to sail to Thrace, whence they carried off many captive women. Bearing this grievous insult, the Lemnian women swore vengeance; and one night, after a riotous banquet, they slew not only their own husbands but every male without distinction — not even sparing the old men and infants. The only man to escape the wrath of the Lemnian women was the king of Lemnos, Thoas, whom his daughter Hypsipyle smuggled away by sea in a chest. According to Mythology, he was found a few days later, exhausted, by a fisherman on a deserted shore of the island of Chios, where the brother of Oenopion reigned — to whom that same king Rhadamanthys had given the island as a gift. After slaying their husbands, the Lemnian women proclaimed as their queen the daughter of their king Thoas, Hypsipyle, and lived as **Amazons**.

After an interval of one or two years, the Argo approached Lemnos — a fact that very few historians do not accept. Since this is recorded by historians and poets of Antiquity of the stature of Homer, Herodotus, Sophocles, Aeschylus, Euripides, Philostratus, and Apollonius of Rhodes, as well as the Romans Valerius and Statius, we judge this episode of the Argonauts, so significant in its implications, to be a historical event. If all the

details of the episode are not known, this in no way predetermines the imaginary character of the Argo's approach to Lemnos. According to Mythology, among the builders of the Argo are counted both Heracles and Glaucus Melicertes, assisted by Hera and Athena. The timber used for the construction of the Argo was selected from Mount Pelion by Thessalian experts and the ship was built at Pagasae in Iolkos; it could be transported on the shoulders of 80 to 100 men. Its crew consisted of sixty oarsmen and, as is known, upon its return from Colchis it was consecrated to the god of the sea, Poseidon.

A thousand years later, a piece of the Argo was sent to Rome where it was on display until 1000 AD. The word Argo in Antiquity carried the meaning of swift, bright, gleaming and radiant. According to Sophocles, when the Lemnian women saw the Argo sailing in, they fought most bravely against the Argonauts and defeated them. According to Aeschylus, the battle they gave was waged on the one hand because they mistook the Argonauts for pirates, and on the other to force them to swear an oath that upon departing they would lie with them. The Argonauts, unable to withstand the Lemnian women, accepted the condition after negotiations — conducted between the herald Aethalides on behalf of the Argonauts and Iphinoe on behalf of Queen Hypsipyle — whereupon they disembarked and remained on the island for more than two years, enjoying as in an earthly paradise the charms and attentions of the most lovable Lemnian women, who, having been deprived for so long of their men, sought to satisfy their natural urges in the arms of the greatest heroes of the then known world: Heracles, Theseus, Jason, Asclepius, Orpheus, Telamon, Augeas, Meleager, Castor, Peleus, Lynceus, Polydeuces, Admetus, Glaucus, Aethalides, Euphemus, Tiphys, Idas, Acastus, Polyphemus, Idmon, Hylus, Menoetius, Argus son of Phrixus and Chalciope, Argus of Thespieae, Argus the woodcarver from the Peloponnese, and others unknown to history.

When after a short while the satiety of amorous pleasures gave way and the sensible cohabitation of the Lemnian women with the Argonauts began, Queen Hypsipyle of Lemnos officially honoured the heroes with competitive games and prizes. Upon their conclusion, she celebrated her marriage with the Leader of the Argonautic Expedition, Jason, by whom she bore two sons, Thoas and Jason.

From the *Gymnasticos* — an ancient work by the Lemnian Philostratus — we learn, to the glory of the Lemnians, that the Argonauts competed for the first time on earth in the **Pentathlon** on Lemnos, during the games organised in their honour by Queen Hypsipyle of Lemnos. The relevant passage of the third chapter of the introduction to the *Gymnasticos* of Flavius Philostratus reads: "Of all competitive events, the light ones are these: the stadion, the dolichos, the hoplitodromos, the diaulos; and the heavier ones are the pankration, wrestling, and boxing. The pentathlon was combined from both, for wrestling and the discus are heavy events, while the javelin, the jump, and the sprint are light events. Before Jason and Peleus, the long jump was crowned separately, the discus separately, and the javelin was sufficient for victory; but in the time when the Argo sailed, Telamon was strongest in the discus, Lynceus in the javelin, and the sons of Boreas ran and jumped, while Peleus was second in these but

mastered all in wrestling. When therefore they competed on Lemnos, they say that Jason, wishing to please Peleus, combined the five events, and that Peleus thus gathered the victory, being deemed the most warlike of those of his generation, both for the virtue he displayed in battle and for his practice in the five events — so warlike as this — in which the javelin too counts among the contests."

But the paradisiacal sojourn of the Argonauts on Lemnos was interrupted entirely unexpectedly and they departed willingly-unwillingly, compelled to do so by the implacable Heracles, who reminded them of the exclusive purpose of their voyage to Colchis.

After the departure of the Argonauts, the Lemnian women — learning, from an unknown source, that their King Thoas had been smuggled away by his daughter — were so enraged against their Queen Hypsipyle that, assembling together, they condemned her to death. She too, however, was smuggled away by two of her handmaidens; and after many adventures she would have been cast upon the shores of Euboea, had she not been captured by pirates who sold her as a slave to Lycurgus, king of Nemea, who entrusted her with the upbringing of his infant son Opheltes. Unfortunately, for a few days while Hypsipyle was playing with little Opheltes beside a spring on the royal estate, the Seven Generals marching against Thebes passed that way and asked her for water. Hypsipyle, readily obliging, set down the little Opheltes, who shortly afterwards died from the bite of a venomous serpent, despite the assistance of the generals who rushed to help. Thereupon the mother of little Opheltes, Eurydice, avenging her son's death, imprisoned Hypsipyle; she was later freed by her two sons, whom the seer Amphiaraus had led to the spot.

The present chapter on the Argonautic expedition convinces us that the Argo put in at Lemnos as it lay on the route to the Hellespont, and that the Argonauts remained on it for a considerable time. In further confirmation we note that a very few years later, the Minyans came to Lemnos and settled in its capital LEMNOS, which they renamed Myrina in honour of the daughter of Cretheus, king of lolcos. They did not come as enemies. They came as friends and, according to the historian Herodotus, as descendants of 'the children of those who had sailed on the Argo.' Nor did they give battle or wage even the smallest naval engagement. Thus, friendly relations with the Lemnians continued under them as well. But the admirable coexistence of Minyans and Lemnians was not destined to last long. New arrivals appear upon the scene: the Carians, the Achaeans and the Pelasgians. Of these, the most significant role in the subsequent history of Lemnos until 511 BC was played, as we shall see, by the Pelasgians expelled from Attica by the Athenians — because, as many historians record, they disturbed the Athenian women fetching water, but also because they conspired against the constitution.

THE PELASGIANS

The Pelasgians — a strong and progressive people — fell upon the island of Lemnos, and after stubborn resistance put up by its inhabitants, conquered the Island, whereupon in retribution they expelled the greater part of its population. Concerning the capture of Lemnos by the Pelasgians and their establishment upon it, we have much evidence and History records much.

On the hillock of the Venetian fortress of the present capital Myrina, small sections of Pelasgian walls survive to this day, visible even to the naked eye from a distance, while Herodotus, by means of the already well-known phrase 'the Pelasgians expelled the children of those who had sailed on the Argo,' fully confirms the historical fact of the capture of Lemnos by the Pelasgians.

Concerning the fact that the Pelasgians set out from Attica to capture Lemnos, Herodotus narrates the following: 'The Pelasgians of Lemnos, having decided to take revenge on the Athenians who had expelled them, campaigned against them with swift fifty-oared vessels at the time when the Athenians were celebrating the festival of the goddess Artemis at Brauron; and, lying in ambush, they carried off a great number of Athenian women and maidens, whom they led to Lemnos. From these they had many children who came into conflict with the pure-blooded children of the



Section of the Pelasgian walls on the Venetian fortres of Myrina



Venetian walls built on top of cyclopean walls on the North side of the Castle

Pelasgians. For that reason, and because their fathers feared that these children, when grown, might punish them, they slew both the children and their mothers — a crime for which both women and flocks ceased to give birth and the earth to bear fruit.'

Faced with such calamity they were compelled to consult the Oracle, which gave the prophecy that they would be saved only if they complied with the demands of the Athenians. Going therefore to Athens, they asked the Athenians what they required for satisfaction. Then the Athenians, instead of a reply, set before them a most lavish table of varied dishes and said to them: 'Thus shall you deliver Lemnos to us.' The Pelasgians, recovering from the astonishment caused them by the Athenians' demand, said that 'they would hand over the Island only when, with the north wind blowing, the Athenians managed to sail from Attica to Lemnos in a single day.' This passage convinces us that the Pelasgians not only settled on the island of Lemnos but that they loved it greatly.

One wave of the Pelasgians expelled by the Athenians crossed over also to Tyrrhenian Italy, where Tyrrhenian civilisation developed. The Dorians and the Ionians also belonged to the numerous Pelasgian nations. Their leader was Pelasgus and their homeland Arcadia, which in antiquity was called Pelasgia; and according to Mythology, they were the first to name the twelve Gods.

The Pelasgian language was the most ancient proto-Greek and akin to the Indo-Germanic tongues, but entirely incomprehensible to the rest of the Greeks. In Greece it was spoken first in Arcadia, south-eastern Macedonia and north-western Asia Minor. But while the Pelasgians of Greece in general — and chiefly the Ionians, Dorians and Aeolians — having evolved rapidly acquired their alphabet and by means of it recorded and immortalised their dialects — the Aeolic, the Attic and the Ionic, in which Homer wrote his epics — those who had settled on the islands of the North Aegean lagged behind by at least 200 years. And when around the middle of the 7th century BC they too began to set down their thoughts in an alphabet similar to the Greek — but in a language incomprehensible to others — powerful nations with a superior civilisation (Athenians, Macedonians, Persians) expelled them from their places of residence, enslaved them or scattered them. Thus, around the middle of the 6th century, they were driven out also from Lemnos, Imbros, Samothrace, Mytilene and the other islands of the Aegean — first by the Persians, then by the Athenians, and finally by the Macedonians and Romans.

Of the multitude of prehistoric and historical finds displayed in the Archaeological Museum of Lemnos, unfortunately none is presented as Pelasgian. We confine ourselves therefore to knowing only of the Pelasgian walls on the Venetian fortress of Myrina and of the celebrated inscription of Kaminia, discovered by the late Argyrios Moschidis on the hill of Esokastro some 70 years ago. Concerning it, Argyrios Moschidis writes at length in a special appendix to his Historical Essay, with commentaries on the interpretations of foreign epigraphists who, though correctly assigning the text of the inscription chronologically to between 650 and 620 BC, do not pronounce definitively on its origin.

On the same slab — measuring 0.95 x 0.40 x 0.14 — a warrior bearing a spear is also depicted. As the reader will note, there are two inscriptions; concerning the interpretation of these, the late Argyrios Moschidis acknowledges that only the famous Etruscologist Pauli dealt with the contentious subject comprehensively, in a carefully prepared work in two volumes.

The view of Pauli, in agreement with that of the late Moschidis, is that the inscription on the slab of Kaminia is exclusively of Pelasgian origin and not of Pelasgian-Tyrrhenian character. Since we too cannot pass indifferently over the problem that has occupied both Greek and foreign historians, we align ourselves unreservedly with the interpretation of Pauli and Moschidis — not because we set ourselves up as epigraphists and historians, but because elementary logic tells us: (a) that the Inscription cannot belong to Tyrrheni, Phrygians, Carians or Phoenicians, since on Lemnos from 800 BC without interruption Pelasgians dwelt until 511 BC, having set out from Attica where they had previously settled; and (b) that the Lemnian Pelasgians, wishing to immortalise something of great interest to them, expressed it on the said slab in the Pelasgian tongue — incomprehensible to the rest of the Greeks — using letters of the Greek alphabet, which had only just begun to be taught in small and

remote islands such as Lemnos, Tenedos, Imbros, Samothrace and others.

MOSYCHLOS AND HERMAION

From the Palaeolithic era perhaps, there existed on the volcanic island of Lemnos the volcano known in antiquity up to historical times as Mosychlos. The myth of the god Hephaestus hurled from Olympus, his fall upon Lemnos, the reception accorded him by the Sinties inhabitants who tended him, Heraclitus of Ephesus (who flourished around 500 BC) who says 'on Lemnos earth-born fires arise of their own accord,' and the epithet 'Aethaleia' ('Sooty') given by Homer to the Island (for the smoky god Hephaestus was so called) — because through Lemnos's atmosphere smoke arose from the volcano Mosychlos and from the furnaces of the workshops — all these testify that Nature had endowed Lemnos from time immemorial with an active volcano.

The volcanic nature of the island of Lemnos is further confirmed by the hot springs at the locality of Therma, six kilometres from Myrina. At this location, on the right as one ascends the asphalted road for a distance of about one kilometre, the slope of the rocky eminence is nothing other than cooled incandescent lava. Such rocks are so numerous throughout the entire Island that one might reasonably wonder what volcanic energy lies and still lies beneath the island of the god Hephaestus, Lemnos.

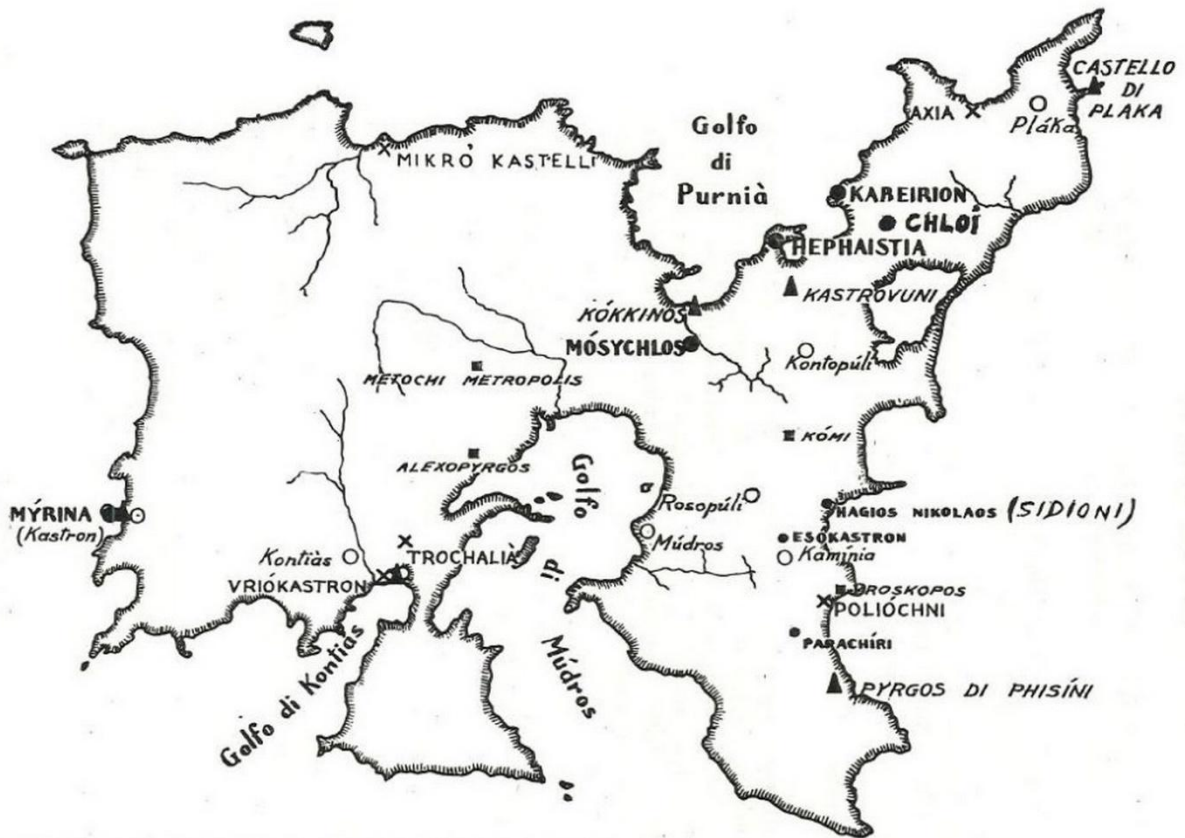
The location where the volcano Mosychlos stood is indicated by the geographical-archaeological map given to us by Doctor Luigi Bernabò Brea as lying to the south, and at a distance of approximately two kilometres, from Kotzinos.

The extinction of the volcano Mosychlos is assumed to have occurred simultaneously with the subsidence of Mount Hermaion — perhaps in the 5th century BC — as a consequence of a major seismic disturbance. In the time of Pausanias, the Spartan general, Mount Hermaion no longer existed.

On Mount Hermaion, according to Aeschylus (*Agamemnon*, line 184), the news of the fall of Troy was transmitted by means of a great beacon from Mount Ida. From Hermaion it was transmitted to Mount Athos (*Hagion Oros*) and from Athos to the Peloponnese. Where exactly Hermaion lay is unknown to us. We accordingly repeat here, as all those before us who have dealt with this matter have concluded — and we express our view with reservations — that the locality enclosed between Kastrovouni, Kontopoulion and Alyki, which presents many suspicious signs of subsidence, may lay claim to the existence upon it of the volcano.

THE PERSIANS

The Pelasgians, established on Lemnos around 800 BC, after overcoming and expelling the Minyans, dwelt upon it for approximately three centuries — specifically until 511 BC — when, following



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|---|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| × | Abitati preistorici | ▲ | Castelli di età medievale |
| ● | Città e Santuari di età classica | ■ | Abitati medievali |
| • | Resti archeologici di età classica | ○ | Abitati moderni |
| × | Προϊστορικοί πόλεις | ▲ | Φρούρια Κλασσικής εποχής |
| ● | Πόλεις Κλασσικής περιόδου | ■ | Μεσαιωνικοί συνοικισμοί |
| • | Ερείπια | ○ | Μεταμεσαιωνικοί συνοικισμοί |

a fierce and most tenacious battle, a large Persian fleet captured it under Otanes, heir of Darius, who had as his ally Koen, the tyrant of Lesbos. According to Herodotus, the Lemnians put up stout resistance, which is why Otanes massacred many and enslaved many.

By this conduct, Otanes aimed chiefly at dominating all the islands of the Aegean and consolidating Persian power on the European continent.

THE ATHENIANS

In the year 510 BC, the commander of the Athenian fleet, Miltiades, having recovered the Chersonese and consolidated his hegemony, fell upon Lemnos and demanded that the Myrineans and Hephaestians surrender the Island to him. Hephaestia, he captured without a fight, because the tyrant of the Hephaestians, Hermon, wished to propitiate and attach the Athenians to himself for his own benefit; whereas Myrina, which refused to submit to the Athenians, he was compelled to take by fire and sword, and after its capture he ordered the Myrinaeans to abandon the Island.

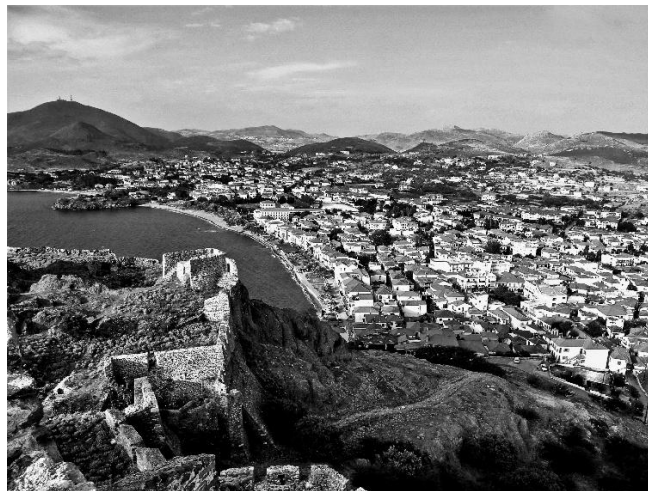
In the year 493 BC, however, the Persians, having overcome the Ionians and consolidated their authority throughout all of Asia Minor, captured Lemnos once again; and they came very close to capturing Miltiades himself, who had awaited reinforcements from Athens until the last moment in order to engage the Persian fleet in naval battle. This time the Persians, having captured Lemnos, behaved toward the Lemnians in an altogether unexpectedly favourable manner — and even toward the small number of Athenian settlers — because the Athenians had not recalled the previously expelled Pelasgians. But once again, Persian authority over Lemnos was not destined to last long. In 479 BC the Athenians, having crushed the Persians, definitively recaptured Lemnos and, in order to consolidate their power upon it, installed a considerable number of settlers who concentrated all authority in their hands and kept the native inhabitants at a distance, with whom intermarriage was forbidden.

The Lemnians spoke the Greek language of the Athenian settlers and lived in complete freedom. They were given many privileges, among them: (a) the right to acquire a small amount of immovable property; (b) the right to mint bronze coins (gold coins were minted only by the settlers); (c) the right to hold games at public expense; and (d) the right to be politically organised and to have a Council. Despite this, they were obliged to pay an annual tax which, as we know from an inscription found at Myrina, amounted to nine talents for Myrina and another nine for Hephaestia — that is, 600,000 drachmas for each city. At that time, the Athenian settlers of Lemnos commissioned from the greatest sculptor of Antiquity, Pheidias, the bronze statue of the Lemnian Athena, which was, as is known, dedicated to the Goddess and erected on the Acropolis. The settlers placed boundary markers on their allotments indicating the limits of each holding. One such boundary marker we found on our family farm at the location of Kastria in the mountainous district of Phakos, a decade ago; we transported it by a small motorboat to Myrina, whereupon we handed it over to the Archaeological Museum of Lemnos, where it is displayed. In order to transport it from the precipitous location of 'Kastria' to the shore and thence by sea to Myrina, we expended great effort and in the

end we all came close to being swept out to sea — including our young son Christophoros — by a strong east wind that arose unexpectedly, because the motorboat's fuel ran out entirely and it had no oars either. We were saved by the grace of God, when at the most critical moment we advised and urged the ten workers with us to take their spades and use them as oars — which they did. In the text of the inscription, many interesting elements are mentioned, among them the name of the Athenian settler.



Μεταφορά της μετ' επιγραφής πλακός εις το Μουσείον Μυρίνης ευρεθείσης υφ' ημών εις θέσιν «Καστριά», ΦΑΚΟΣ



A small part of the Venetian fortress of Myrina, once inhabited by people from the Paleolithic era, and a beautiful view of Myrina.

After the ignominious defeat of the Athenians at Aegospotami in 405 BC, the masters of the Bosphorus, the Hellespont, all the islands of the North Aegean and the coasts of Thrace, Macedonia and Asia Minor became the Spartans who, with Lysander as their admiral and general, captured Lemnos and expelled the Athenian settlers. In 394 BC, however, the Athenian general Conon, aided by the Persians, having defeated the Spartan admiral Peisander at Cnidus, expelled the Lacedaemonians from the islands and restored to Lemnos the settlers expelled by Lysander.

THE MACEDONIANS

The successive land victories of the king of Macedonia, Philip, resulted also in the acquisition of a significant fleet. It was therefore inevitable that in 353 BC Lemnos too should suffer his depredations and the enslavement of its settlers. The manifold devastations wrought upon Lemnos by the Macedonians are denounced to us by Demosthenes in his first speech, in the year 351 BC, by means

of which he urges the Athenians to prepare as quickly as possible, so that they might attack Philip with resolve, all the more so because "the lost island of Lemnos provides him with the most secure harbours for wintering his army and an abundance of provisions."

In 346 BC, when peace was concluded between the Athenians and Philip, Lemnos came once again under Athenian control, which they retained until 315 BC, when it was seized by Antigonos, a general of Alexander the Great, only to pass back into Athenian hands a mere eight years later.

Six years later, that is in 301 BC, Lemnos was occupied by Lysimachus, another general of Alexander the Great and an enemy of Antigonos. Lysimachus governed the island tyrannically until 281 BC, after which he became King of Thrace.

From that point on, the fortunes of Lemnos were most grievous. For a certain period of time the island also fell under the rule of Ptolemy, King of Egypt.

What the internal situation of the island was during those times, we do not know.

THE ROMAN PERIOD

After a century of foreign occupation, in 197 BC, Lemnos was declared a free island by the Roman Senate. To mark this historic event officially, the Roman Senate sent Lucius Stertinius to Lemnos, who formally proclaimed it free and did not permit the Athenians to reclaim it. The Athenians succeeded in gaining possession only of the two islands of Imbros and Skyros, which had always shared the fate of Lemnos. Nevertheless, after the passage of thirty years, the Romans, perceiving that no danger threatened them, permanently ceded Lemnos to the Athenians.

From that time forward, the island of Lemnos was held continuously by the Athenians until 267 AD. This is confirmed by an inscription discovered at Hephaistia. In that same inscription there is mention of a cleruchy high priest of Hephaistia, and also of the fact that in 267 AD the barbarian hordes of the Goths and the Heruli, having sailed across the Black Sea and captured Byzantium with a fleet of 500 small vessels, subsequently crossed over to Lemnos, which they plundered.

THE VISUAL ARTS

From prehistoric times, Lemnos boasted its native son **Glaucus** as one of the most celebrated sculptors, and, according to Herodotus, also as the **inventor of iron soldering**. A work by Glaucus, of incomparably delicate craftsmanship, was offered by Alyattes, King of Lydia, to Delphi in the 5th century BC. In more recent times, **Alkamenes** stands out as the brightest star of the Lemnian firmament. He lived in the 5th century BC, and his many masterworks are praised in detail by **Pausanias**. Beyond his admirable delicacy of technique, which is most prominently displayed in the western pediment of the Temple of Zeus at Olympia and in various works of the Parthenon, he also stamped his artistic talent upon statues, statuettes, and sculptural groups in stone, marble, gold, gold-and-ivory, and bronze.

Among his masterworks, those most universally known to the scholarly and artistic world are: the goddess Hera; the **Aphrodite in the Gardens of Athens**; Ares; Hephaestus together with Athena; the Pentathlete; the Bearded Hermes erected at the Propylaea of the Acropolis; the Discus-thrower, a copy of which we have admired at the Vatican; the Wounded Dying Figure; the Wounded Amazon; the Youth known as the Antikythera Ephebe, so called because this beautiful bronze statue was raised from the seabed near that small island; the Apoxyomenos; Hecate, a statue erected upon the tower of the goddess Athena Nike, for which reason it received the epithet Epipyrgidia; and many others.

Alkamenes was a pupil of Pheidias, and because he proved himself the finest of his students, the Ancients ranked him second only to Pheidias.

Among the Lemnian sophists, Antiochus was celebrated in the 5th century BC; of him the greatest of philosophers, Aristotle, says that "he rivalled Socrates."

Lemnos also produced philosophers and writers in the persons of Apollodorus and the four Philostrati. The most famous of these is Flavius Philostratus, who, after teaching for some time in Athens, went to Rome, where he was included among the rhetoricians and sophists of the court of the Empress Julia Domna. This afforded him the opportunity to travel through Syria, Gaul, and many other lands of the Roman Empire. Regrettably, only a very small number of noteworthy works by Flavius Philostratus have survived, among them: Life of Apollonius of Tyana, Lives of the Sophists, Heroicos, Gymnasticos, and Epistles — the last being mostly erotic in character.

CHAPTER IV

1st and 2nd Centuries AD

PRE-MEDIEVAL TIMES

From the third century AD until the end of the ninth, we know nothing noteworthy concerning Lemnos.

After the well-known defeat of Maxentius on the banks of the Tiber and, the following year, that of Licinius at Adrianople, Constantine the Great remained sole monarch in the year 324. Perceiving that Rome lay far away and that repelling the enemies of the Empire had become extremely difficult, he founded in 330, upon the ruins of ancient Byzantium, the city of Constantinople, to which he transferred the capital of the Roman Empire. At that time the islands, among them Lemnos, were incorporated into it, thus binding their fortunes to its own.

Around the year 900, after more than five centuries of peace, when all the islands of the Aegean were seized by the Saracens, Lemnos too was captured and became their prey, as was to be expected. After taking the island of Crete, the Saracens began to ravage the coasts of the Mediterranean and, with religious fanaticism, to seek the extermination of Christians. Their raids extended to the islands of the northern Aegean, which suffered immensely until the year 924, when the Byzantine admiral Ioannis Rodinos defeated them in a naval battle off Lemnos. Their destruction was complete, and for this reason they never resumed their raids, which had caused many Lemnian families to emigrate to Thessaloniki. The commander of the Arab fleet of the Saracens was Leon the Tripolitan, who through his boldness and ferocity terrorised all the coasts of the Byzantine Empire for many years.

Unfortunately, following the annihilation of the Saracens, the Byzantine Emperor John I Komnenos, believing that no further danger could threaten Byzantium, neglected the navy — a mistake which, as was immediately demonstrated, had most unpleasant consequences for him. In the first place, in order to persuade Venice — at that time one of the most powerful forces in Europe — to ally with him in the war against the Normans, he granted many privileges that proved ruinous both for the Empire and for the small island of Lemnos, where a notable Venetian colony flourished at Kotzinos, a great centre of commercial activity situated at the head of the Bay of Bournia. Later, in order to curb the expansion of the Venetians, he was compelled to grant further privileges to their enemies, the Genoese and the Pisians. In this manner, during the reign of Emperor Baldwin I, Lemnos had been granted to the distinguished family of the Grand Duke of Lemnos, Philokalos Navigazioz, who died in 1214.

He was succeeded by his son Leonardo, who inherited his father's title as well. Leonardo died in 1260 and was succeeded by his eldest son Paul, who married a daughter of the then Duke of the Aegean, Angelo Sanuto.

During the days of Grand Duke Paul Navigagiozos, Lemnos acquired many fortresses in order to protect itself from hostile attacks and pirate raids. This prompted Emperor Michael Palaiologos to decide upon the expulsion of dangers stemming from expansion, and to wrest all Aegean possessions from both the Genoese and the Venetians. A three-year war followed, one phase of which was the staunch resistance of Lemnos for three consecutive years. It was defended by 700 Venetians and their leader, Grand Duke Paul Navigagiozos, who proudly rejected all proposals for the surrender of the fortress. In the second year, 1277, the Grand Duke died suddenly, and his wife succeeded him; she resisted stubbornly and vigorously for a further three years, until, realising that her resources were nearing exhaustion, she agreed to surrender the fortress on condition that she be permitted to take with her, upon departing from Lemnos, whatever she could carry. Thus, by virtue of the treaty concluded, she took away all her property.

After the dissolution of the Venetian dynasty, the Byzantine Emperor Andronikos II Palaiologos, believing that no danger threatened him, dissolved the fleet, thereby giving pirates an opportunity to resume their raids. The first to descend upon Lemnos, in 1292, was the notorious Roger with a flotilla of 30 pirate ships, and he and his men ravaged Myrina and many of the villages.

Four years later, the Italian Malabranca, returning empty-handed from Constantinople against which he had launched a campaign with a large fleet, seized Lemnos and likewise engaged in plundering and destruction. Eight years later, the Spaniard Roger de Flor, who had entered the emperor's service, after defeating the Turks in Asia Minor and plundering it, on his return to Constantinople also looted the islands of Chios, Mytilene, Lemnos, Imbros, and Tenedos. If we add to these raids those of the Turks, who regularly launched sudden attacks and plundered many of the islands, including Lemnos, the Lemnians may rightly boast that their remote small homeland, Lemnos, with unimaginable endurance and valour, effectively resisted for decades against so many pirates and barbaric raiders.

LEMNOS AND THE GATTILUZI

Just as the small island of Lemnos suffered, confronting in its smallness so many enemies, so too the Byzantine Empire struggled ever more desperately against many powerful barbarian foes: the Crusaders, the Ottomans, the Bulgarians, the Serbs, the Venetians, the Normans, and the Russians and Mongols who had appeared in that era. The most dangerous were the Turks, who were fanatised and emboldened by their faith in the Koran. Their army consisted largely of cavalry, while their infantry was composed of the Janissaries (Yeni Çeri), who were recruited exclusively from among Christian children.

The impending danger to the Queen of Cities was manifest, all the more so as a conflict had also arisen between Emperor John V Palaiologos and Katakouzenos, which heaped many calamities upon the State. The Turks then found the opportunity to cross into Europe and seize Gallipoli and other cities of the Empire. In 1365, on his return from the West, where he had gone to seek assistance, Emperor Palaiologos V visited the islands of Lemnos, Samothrace, Imbros, and Lesbos. In the last of these he allied with the powerful Genoese Francesco Gattiluzi, to whom he promised to give his sister Maria Palaiologina in marriage and, moreover, to proclaim him Despot of Lesbos, if the Genoese established at Galata — where a great colony of theirs flourished — would lend him their support. In this manner, Mytilene was soon granted to Francesco Gattiluzi, and before long, Lemnos as well.

John V Palaiologos, who died in 1391, was succeeded by his son Manuel II, who granted Lemnos to his nephew John VIII. After the latter's death, the island passed under the sovereignty of Byzantium, with the exception of the fortress of Kotzinos, which was inherited by the wife of John VIII, Eugenia, daughter of Francesco Gattiluzi. The remainder of the island was governed by an administrator appointed by the Emperor himself. In 1436, on his return from Italy, Emperor John VIII Palaiologos visited Lemnos, where he was informed of the death of his wife Maria Komneni. Four years later, in 1440, Eugenia also died — the wife of John VII Palaiologos and daughter of Francesco Gattiluzi — and so the fortress of Kotzinos was seized by the Gattiluzi.

When in 1442 Demetrios, brother of Constantine XI Palaiologos — the last Byzantine Emperor — sought the aid of Murat in order to seize the throne of the Byzantine Empire for himself, Emperor Constantine XI Palaiologos, who was then in the Peloponnese, hastened to return to Constantinople. However, since his wife Catherine was residing with her father, Dorino I Gattiluzi, in Lesbos, he passed through Mytilene, collected her, and subsequently took refuge in Lemnos with her, because on his way he had encountered a large Turkish fleet under the Turkish admiral Achmet. Learning of this, the Turks landed strong forces on Lemnos and besieged the fortress of Kotzinos, known as Palaiokastro, within which both the Emperor and his wife were situated.

The siege of the fortress — the greater part of whose walls was demolished by Turkish artillery — lasted twenty-seven days, after which the Turks, owing to their heavy losses, were compelled to abandon the siege and leave Lemnos in disgrace.

However, owing to the prolonged siege and the many anxieties arising from the heroic resistance of the Lemnians, which the Emperor Constantine XI himself directed, Empress Catherine fell ill, and not long afterwards, in August of 1442, she died and was buried within the Palaiokastro.

With great sorrow and many honours, the Lemnians buried their Empress, after which the valiant Emperor departed for Constantinople, where, coming into contact with Demetrios, he achieved the settlement of all outstanding matters. From that time onwards, the Lemnians lived in peace and tranquillity until 1479, even after the fall of Constantinople to the Turks.

LEMNOS AFTER THE FALL OF CONSTANTINOPLE

When some years later, in 1453, Constantinople was conquered by the Turks, the inhabitants of Lemnos, seized by fear — for they knew what they would have to endure under the yoke of the persecutors of Christianity — preferred to declare their submission to the Gattiluzi, whose Despot at that time was the son of Dorino I, Nikolaos, who, as soon as he learned of the fall of Constantinople, placed the entire island under his control. In 1455, however, fearing the immense power of the Sultan, he sent his trusted man Doukas to him, to pay the tribute agreed upon over previous years for Lemnos. The Sultan continued to recognise Lemnos as a Venetian possession on the condition that they pay him the tribute, which he had increased. For this reason, Nikolaos demanded heavier taxes from the island's inhabitants, to such a degree that they preferred to seek direct dependence upon the Sultan himself. The Sultan, willing to oblige, installed as governor of Lemnos his former admiral Hamzan, a capable, just, and conscientious man.

In 1457, a Venetian fleet of eleven ships under Ludovico Scarampi, to which forty additional pirate vessels were added at Mytilene, sailed to Lemnos, which it easily captured, since there was no fighting force stationed on it. Its garrison of one hundred men surrendered together with its commander, and the inhabitants offered no resistance. Scarampi appointed Dromokaitis as governor of Lemnos, and after leaving a strong garrison with Louizos as its commander, departed for Thasos. Nonetheless, in that same year 1457, the Gattiluzi under the former Despot of Lemnos, Nikolaos, retook and refortified Lemnos. Two years later, Mehmed sent Ismail to seize Lemnos, to whom the inhabitants gladly surrendered the island, wishing in this manner to rid themselves forever of Nikolaos and the Venetians.

The following year, 1460, Mehmed, having subjugated the islands surrounding Lemnos, granted them to Demetrios Palaiologos on condition that he receive only half of the revenues. Two years later, in 1462, he also seized Mytilene, and ordered that its ruler, the well-known Nikolaos, former Despot of Lemnos, be strangled.

These sporadic military events had as their consequence the declaration of a merciless war between the Venetians and the Turks, and a fifteen-year occupation of Lemnos by the Venetians, who captured it under admiral Jacopo Loredanos after he had taken all three of its fortresses: those of Kotzinos, Myrina, and Moudros. He subsequently reinforced the island's garrison considerably and constructed extensive fortification works at the Palaiokastro of Kotzinos and the Palaiokastro of Myrina.

In 1475, the Sultan's general Suleiman Pasha launched a furious assault upon Kotzinos, but to no avail, since Antonio Loredanos hastened to its defense. During that terrible onslaught upon Kotzinos, the fanatical, Christian-battling Turks also employed powerful artillery, which inflicted serious damage to the walls of the well-fortified fortress. Its fall thus seemed imminent, despite the staunch and valiant defense mounted by the defenders who fought chest to chest, determined to fall to the last man upon the battlements of the only free fortress of the only free inch of land of a

once vast Greek Byzantine Empire, enslaved twenty years before. But the fortress was not captured. The island was not taken, and victorious were not the Turks but the Lemnians, for at the most critical phase of this close-quarters battle of giants, an event took place that the human imagination can scarcely grasp.

At that very moment, by divine will, a true daughter of Lemnos, the heroine MAROULA, while praying devoutly for the victory of the Lemnian arms, saw her father and leading citizen of Lemnos, Isidoros Komnenos, fall dead before her. Frenzied, she rushed to him, seized his sword, and flung herself irresistibly upon the Turks. Her frantic charge fired the martial spirit of her fellow countrymen, who, emulating the example of their sister Maroula, fell upon the enemies of their homeland like enraged giants.

Within a matter of moments, the Lemnians, who had been desperately defending, became the attackers, and the enemy, struck with terror, began to retreat. Then fell like thunderbolts the celebrated words of the undaunted Maroula: "PATRIOTS, FORWARD!" "LIBERTY OR DEATH!" — words that resulted in the unexpected routing of the enemy, who, panic-stricken, fled in shameful flight to the sea, where in the blink of an eye they boarded their ships to save themselves by flight, leaving Lemnos — Maroula's Lemnos — free.

Historians do not fail to record that Loredanos gratefully proposed to the beautiful and valiant Maroula that she choose as her husband any one of the noble Venetian officers, promising to provide her with a magnificent dowry, and that Maroula replied that she "did not wish to be rewarded for an act which she owed as a duty to her homeland."

The exploit of Maroula was celebrated in verse in the seventeenth century by the Italian from Bologna, GUGLIELMO DONDINI, who also refers briefly in prose to the sources of the events described in his poem. Unfortunately, DONDINI refers to Maroula of Lemnos, erroneously of course, as Maroula of Lesbos.

LEMNOS UNDER THE TURKISH YOKE

The battle fought at Kotzinos on Lemnos and the glorious victory of the Lemnians was the last flash of the sword and the last gleam of the then-expiring Greek Byzantine greatness. The power of barbarism grew day by day, conquering state after state, among them the sea-ruling Venice, which, by the treaty concluded on the 25th of January 1479, ceded the island of Lemnos to Turkey.

The clause of the signed Treaty concerning the cession of Lemnos reads as follows: "Furthermore, the most serene lordship of Venice is obliged to return to my lordship the island of Lemnos; it being preserved that the heads and the lords and other people who wish to go wherever they will may take their leave, and those who wish to remain in the old island shall be pardoned for whatever has occurred until now." By virtue of this clause, amnesty was granted to all the inhabitants of Lemnos without exception, and those of them who wished were permitted to depart

freely, taking with them whatever they could. In fact, many wealthy families then fled and settled in Venice and in Thessaloniki.

The remaining Lemnians were subjected to continual attacks from various enemies, as well as pirate raids, with which they frequently came into conflict. The coastal villages suffered to a far greater degree: Kontias, Plaka, Kotzinos, Agios Ypatios, Myrina, Kaspakas, Platis, Thanos, and many others were destroyed and completely deserted.

Of these, only the present capital of Lemnos, Myrina, and the village of Moudros remain in their original locations. The rest became inland settlements. From the no-longer-existing Kotzinos, the village of Repanidion was formed, whose inhabitants are distinguished by their love for their ancestral home and their vigorous Greek spirit.

Concerning the general condition of Lemnos under Turkish subjugation until the end of the 18th century, we know very little, derived from accounts by foreign travellers. These inform us that the once-glorious fortress in the 16th century no longer existed, as it had collapsed.

That the capital Myrina, known at that time as *Kastron* — owing to the fortification works of the Venetians — was small and insignificant, and that the then-flourishing villages were Kontias or Konteas, Repanidion or Drepanon, and Leivodochorion.

In 1656, after two centuries of peace, the Venetian fleet, having defeated the Turkish fleet between Lemnos and the Dardanelles, seized the islands of Samothrace, Tenedos, and Lemnos.

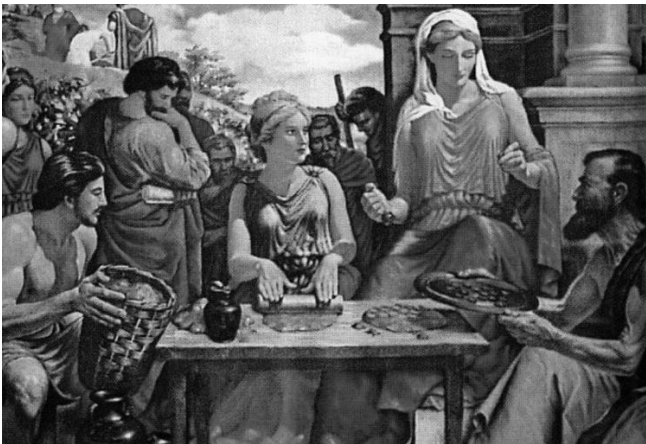
The fortress of the capital Myrina, known as the *Palaiokastro*, held out for 19 days.

Within it were defended some 500 Janissaries and approximately 1,000 Lemnians who had been forcibly conscripted. On the twentieth day, however, the Venetian artillery achieved the result desired by them.

The Venetian general BORRI captured the fortress and occupied the island. The Turks, deeming the loss of Lemnos and the Lemnian Earth to be a serious matter, dispatched the Grand Vizier Köprülü to recapture it; he defeated the Venetian admiral Mocenigo, landed 4,500 cavalry on Lemnos, and after a siege of 63 days took the fortress of *Palaiokastro*, whose garrison surrendered on condition that it be allowed to depart freely.

Upon learning of Köprülü's victory and the recapture of Lemnos — on which the Lemnian Earth was mined — the Sultan, while residing in Adrianople, ordered the city to celebrate for three days.

Slightly to the east, at a distance of one kilometre from the village of Repanidion, at a place called Kokkala, rises a small hill known as "Agiochoma" (Holy Earth), from which during the period of Ottoman rule the "Lemnian Earth" was extracted. It possessed medicinal properties, for which reason it was used in pharmacy and also in industry as a colouring substance. It was exported once a year, on the 6th of August — the feast of the Transfiguration of the Saviour — and its excavation was forbidden by the Turks to the Lemnians on pain of death. It was of a reddish colour, occurred in veins, and was said to cure any wound, even one caused by the bite of a venomous snake. It was extracted by a priestess, and each piece was sealed with a seal depicting the goddess Artemis (TERRA SIGILLATA). battlements of the fortress



Pharmaceutical processing of "Lemnian earth"



The battlements of the Venetian fortress of Myrina, Lemnos

During the Middle Ages, large quantities of such pieces were dispatched by the Turks throughout all of Europe, and the reigning Sultan presented the Lemnian Earth as a gift of the greatest value to kings and other distinguished persons. In antiquity it was originally called "Lemnian Earth" (Limnia Gi), in medieval times "Precious Earth" (Timia Gi), and under Ottoman rule "Agiochoma" (Holy Earth).

SEIZURE OF LEMNOS BY THE RUSSIAN FLEET

After the destruction of the Turkish fleet by the Russians at Chesme in 1770, the commander of the Russian fleet, Count Alexander Orlov, in order to control the Dardanelles Strait, advanced against Lemnos in July of that same year and occupied it without a fight. However, the Palaiokastro of Myrina was not surrendered; within it all the Turks had taken refuge with their families, determined to mount a defense.

Indeed, although a month passed, Orlov achieved nothing; on the contrary, the besieged even mounted bold sorties, engaging the besiegers. When, however, the provisions and munitions within the fortress were exhausted, the opposing sides entered into negotiations, which culminated in the conclusion of a treaty that was not implemented, because before the expiry of the deadline, a powerful Turkish force of 4,000 cavalry under admiral Hasan Hacı Cezayirli, having landed at Nevgati, entirely overturned the whole situation. Without delay, Hasan advanced upon the capital, seized the surrounding heights — among them the small fortified height of Tampia — and attacked the

Russians, who numbered 800. Finding themselves before such overwhelming enemy superiority, the Russians were compelled to retreat to the harbour to board their ships and sail away to Moudros, in whose safe harbour their fleet had been anchored since the day of their arrival.

That same evening, an envoy of Hasan delivered a letter to Orlov which, translated into Greek at that time, reads as follows:

"Most beneficent, most compassionate, plenipotentiary of the Russian Empire destined by God for benevolence, Count Orlov — may the Most High ever protect you throughout your life. We personally are well. The fortress that was besieged by you and compelled to conclude a treaty hoisted a white flag upon its battlements, and according to the mutual agreement, six hostages were handed over to you under the treaty, who are still in your power. And the fortress could not be surrendered, because by order which I received from the Sultan I hastened to its relief and, entering it, raised the red flag in place of the white. All those who concluded the treaty still keep their word, and there exists from the beginning of the world no precedent by which those who handed over hostages did not prove faithful to their word. But since I am now master of the fortress and the commanders and subordinates within it can do nothing, one is entitled to hope that, as regards the hostages, your name and virtue — which are extolled by all — will not permit you to fail to restore to them their freedom."

On the following day, the 2nd of October 1770, Hasan Hacı Cezayirli with a force of 800 soldiers advanced upon Alexander Orlov at Moudros, where the Russians were encamped. There a most tenacious battle took place from morning until deep into the night, from which the Russians emerged victorious; although they had fewer than half the troops of the Turks and very little ammunition, they forced the Turks to retreat and also to leave 250 dead on the battlefield and more than 100 within the village and its surroundings.

On the day after the battle, Orlov summoned the leading Greek citizens of the island to inform them of the situation that had developed since Hasan Hacı Cezayirli had landed with a large army, and at the same time to make known to them that he had decided to depart, abandoning Lemnos: on the one hand because his munitions were completely exhausted, and on the other because he expected reinforcements from no quarter.

If Orlov had been the loser, would he have had the time and freedom of action to summon dozens of leading citizens from across the island and to release the hostages, having first persuaded them to swear on the Koran that they would exert every possible effort with Hasan to ensure that the civilian Greek population would not be punished after his departure? If, after the most tenacious battle, the victor was Cezaerli, how is one to explain the unhindered departure of Orlov two days after the battle, accompanied only by three-quarters of his troops, and two days later the departure of the remainder of his military force under admiral Spiritov and vice-admiral Elphinstone?

One way or another, notwithstanding the historical controversy that has arisen, the master of the situation became Hasan H. Cezaerli.

After the departure of the Russian army, Lemnos, as a sacrificial victim, paid the heaviest blood toll since its founding. For three days and nights, the army of Hasan Hacı Cezayirli — particularly the Janissaries — slaughtered indiscriminately every Lemnian, sparing neither women nor children. First of all, they publicly hanged on the bridge of the central road of the capital — which today stands by the third Primary School — the then Metropolitan of Lemnos, Ioakeim the Chian, and subsequently, in a single day, three hundred leading citizens. Among these was also the hieromonk teacher Kosmas, who, from the time he had begun teaching in Athens — where he had taught for five years — prayed to God to grant him a martyr's death.



Medieval buildings on the Venetian Fortress of Myrina



Entrance of the Venetian Fortress of Myrina

After the three-day massacre, there followed persecutions, lootings, arson, and the demolition of the Church of the Holy Trinity, patron saint of Myrina.

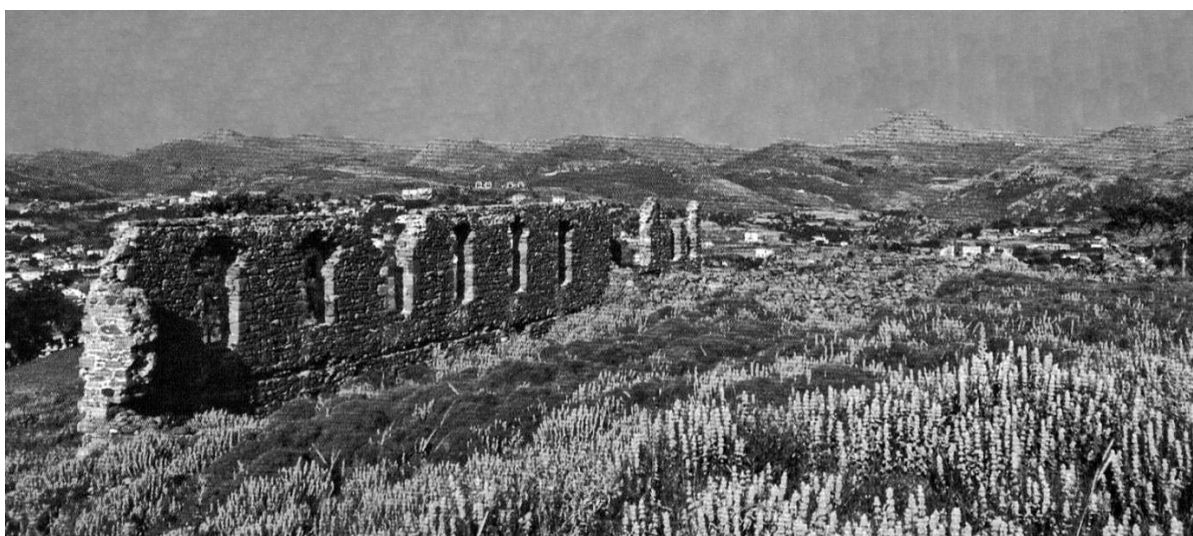
Those who escaped the massacre were those who fled to the mountains and the precipitous and hidden places of the island, while more than three thousand abandoned Lemnos and settled — most of them in Thessaloniki, the rest in Italy. Those who remained, mostly destitute, were subjected to very heavy taxes.

A few years later, around 1800, as foreign visitors and travellers report, a school was in operation on Lemnos, in which a graduate of the School of Ioannina taught, receiving an annual salary of 500 groschen. Where precisely it operated, however, no one mentions. We personally believe that it operated in the village of Sarpi.

From these same travellers we learn that at that period in Myrina there were notable shipyards in which warships were also built for the Turkish fleet, and that these were delivered within six months of their being ordered.

After his victory over the Russians, the Sultan elevated Hasan Hacı Cezayirli to the rank of

Kapetan Pasha, that is, admiral of the Turkish Fleet, also bestowing upon him the title of Ghazi, meaning the Victor. He governed Lemnos for one year, and during his time the communal baths at Therma were also established; until about fifty years ago these were operated by the village of Kornos, which was closest to them — the village known as Dimos until 1912, perhaps because most of its inhabitants were titled, well-to-do Turks. These Turks, having settled in Kornos as soon as they seized Lemnos in the mid-15th century, seized large tracts of cultivable fields and pastures and engaged Lemnian farmers as cultivators, whom they called "kiagiades" (tenant farmers). The kiagias had the undivided support of his Turkish master, and in many cases was also supported materially. It is an indisputable fact that all Turkish landowners of Lemnos without exception, up to the



Ruined medieval buildings on the Venetian fortress of Myrina

Liberation, treated their kiagiades with kindness and generosity, considering them partners and family friends.

To them were entrusted thousands of okades of wheat, barley, legumes, and sesame for sowing, their flocks of sheep and goats, and the farming tools of their estates. Their masters did not supervise them during sowing or during the harvest. Philosophically inclined, they avoided scrutinising them. They knew that the kiagias would bring to them from the harvest whatever remained after him and his family.

Otherwise, they would die of hunger together with their families, and then their properties would remain uncultivated. It was established practice that every Sunday the kiagiades would visit their Turkish "masters" (afentikó) to perform various small services and also to bring the well-known "tagin" (tribute in kind). This consisted of one "kouroupi" (vessel) full of milk of approximately four litres, three or four fresh cheeses of the day in wicker moulds, and various other seasonal products from the master's estates — such as fresh ricotta ("kourfi"), mizithra

cheese, courgettes, broad beans, aubergines, melons, watermelons, grapes, almonds, cornelian cherries and the like. Some of the «kiagiádes», if the estate was by the sea, also brought seafood — such as mussels, snails, limpets, various shellfish, sea urchins and other things — not out of obligation but "purely for the pleasure of it," whereupon the Turkish master would be delighted by the so cordial sentiments of his kiagias.

Later, from 1880 onwards and up to the present day, the kiagiádes were engaged and are engaged as kolligoi (sharecroppers), that is, as partners with equal rights in the bearing of expenses and the distribution of the entire harvest. The Turkish owner-landlord, the "master," would hand over to the kiagias the estate with all its flocks, seeds, and tools, while the kiagias — with all his family and draught animals — undertook to cultivate all the fields of the estate and to graze the flock and other large animals throughout the year on the pasture, the herdsman being paid by the kiagias and not by the Turkish master. The kiagias was also obliged, furthermore, to transport with his draught animals to the Turkish landowner's house half of the harvest — whether from the threshing floor or from the vineyard — and to place his draught animals at the disposal of the master's family accompanying it either to the estate, or to Therma, or to the capital for its affairs.

When the kiagias, after a few or many years, came to an agreement ("mparestne") with another master, he was obliged, before departing from the estate, to return in the presence of witnesses the "dowry" of the estate — that is, the same quality and quantity of the seeds he had received, the tools, and half of the entire flock of sheep, goats, and lambs. The other half of the flock belonged to the departing kiagias, and so he took it with him before the new kiagias was installed on the estate. The installation of the kiagias on the estate was in a word called and is still called "kiachailiki" or "kiachag'lik." This, from the end of the 16th century, took place on the 16th of August, after which followed outdoor festivities (eating, drinking, dancing, and singing).

MARITIME LEMNOS

As early as the second half of the 18th century, Lemnos counted around 50 sailing vessels, commonly called ships (karávia).

The subjugated inhabitants of Lemnos had devoted themselves very early to merchant shipping, because in this way they were exempt from all taxation, and through precious gifts offered to the governing Turks, the 'ship-owners' (karavokyrides) wrested from them concessions and privileges! One of these privileges was also the exemption of themselves, their households, and their relatives from compulsory military service. For this reason, the progress of the Lemnians in maritime commerce was remarkable, and they were quickly recognized by the Turks as unrivalled seafarers and worthy support merchants. The arrival in the capital Myrina of a 'ship' belonging to a Lemnian ship-owner was greeted in the harbour by both Greeks and Turks without distinction. Upon disembarking, the ship-owner was not obliged to do so, but would present himself in procession to the Mutesarif (governor), followed by his household and friends, as well as by the 'azades' (Lemnian headmen), in

order to hear from him the historic greeting 'hoş geldin' (welcome) or 'kalos orises' (you are welcome).

The number of ship-owners and consequently of sailing vessels increased continuously until 1875. At that time the island of Lemnos counted approximately 300 sailing vessels — more than any other subjugated island counted at that period. Regarding the ship-owners, we narrate in detail in the third part, in free Lemnian verse, with many interesting particulars.

The most distinguished among them were: Papagiánnis from the village of Kontiás, who at that time honoured and glorified his small native land of Lemnos with his remarkable mercantile fleet of 60 sailing vessels of every capacity, and who now honours Mother Greece with his world-renowned company based in London, counted among the largest shipping companies; Dimitriou from Myrina,



“Romeikos Gialos” beach

who in 1880 dissolved his company of 90 sailing vessels and turned to other enterprises; Ntanás Garofállou from Myrina with 16 sailing vessels; Chatzimavroudís from Myrina with 12; Meıntánis from Kontiás with two; Konstantínos Mákras of Kontiás with six; Bárkas from Kontiás with four; the Brothers Stráftis from Myrina with two; Panagiotis Laskarídis from Tsásis with four; Karangiaouris from Kontiás with eight; Kalogiánnis from Myrina with twelve; the brothers Galliotis from Myrina with two; Ioánnis Raftópoulos from Myrina with one; Emmanouel Danézis from Myrina with one; the Brothers Garofállou from Myrina with one; Panagiotis Psarof from Myrina with one; Karakatsánis from Tsásis with one; Anagnóstis Mavréllis from Myrina with one; Ángelos Dímos from Myrina with one; Dimítrios Kakalis from Andrónion with one; Thomás Palamoutis from Andrónion with one; Antónios Telpízis from Kontiás with four; Konstantínos Mavroudís from Kontiás with two;

Giorgantís from Andrónion with one; Koutsoukos from Platys with one; Kontarás from Platys with one; Diamantís from Pespéragon with one; Podáras from Portianoú with one; Alkiviádis from Tsimándria with one; Meleounis from Repanídion with one; Nikólaos Trataros from Myrina with one; and after the First World War, Thomás Katsikogiannis from Myrina, who after having served as supplier to the British fleet at Moudros with his large-capacity sailing vessel “Maria”, sold it in 1919 in Chios and purchased one light pleasure craft and one merchant sailing vessel, the “Eléni”, both of which were also sold in 1928; and finally Apóstolos Vakouras with one.

All the sailing vessels without exception were built at the two shipyards of the capital, Myrina. One, known as the 'carnaggio', lay on the commercial harbour of Myrina (the Turkish Waterfront), while the other was on the 'Roman Waterfront' beside the chapel of Saint Paraskevi at the foot of the Venetian fortress. At this latter yard, in the year 1927, the last sailing vessel (ship) was built, of 450-tonne capacity, on the order of the ship-owner Chrysóstomos Vakouras, whose lawyer was the director of the newspaper Lemnos, Mr. Emmanouel Konstantinídís, who benefited the Island in every possible way. On the day of the launching of the sailing vessel, which bore the name 'Lemnos', an official ceremony took place attended by many dignitaries and thousands of inhabitants from Myrina, Andrónion, Tsásis, and the villages of Platys and Thános.

Priority at both shipyards was given to the warships of the Turkish fleet ordered by the Sultan, those of various Turkish officials and titled men of Lemnos, and also of the Pashas, which were usually berthed in the bay of Platys — which was for this reason called the 'Pasha's Harbour' until recently. It was here that in the year 1830 the great Philhellene Hevídis Mohammad Ali disembarked with his retinue of 42 soldiers, in order to travel to Egypt on the Sultan's orders. He was compelled to take refuge on Lemnos and remain there for 47 days, because upon exiting the Dardanelles he encountered an unusual storm.

Among the Lemnian ship-owners who effectively aided the heroes of 1821, the most distinguished were: Captain Ntanás Garofállou, whose Turks captured one sailing vessel; Captain Anéstos Karagiaouris, whom the Sultan outlawed for a considerable sum of money because he had placed 6 of his largest vessels at the disposal of the illustrious fighters; Captain Konstantis Mákras; and Captain Nikólas Chatzimavroudíς, who bravely and effectively aided the then-rebelling subjugated brethren.

In the year 1860, Ioánnis Karakatsánis, a ship-owner from Tsásis, sold off his small fleet of 5 sailing vessels and acquired his own steamship, which for one year operated a route between Smyrna, Lemnos, Constantinople and back. Later, however, he was forced to suspend his calls at Lemnos, because — as is well known — the Lemnians, being envious of him, gave him no support whatsoever.

PIRACY

The island of Lemnos, situated opposite the Dardanelles in a commanding position over the Northern Aegean, faced many raids by Greek and foreign pirates.

For this reason, many coastal villages (in 1825 Lemnos numbered 75 villages) were entirely destroyed and very few of them became inland, today lying at a small distance from the sea — such as Kontiás, Káspaka, Pláka, Thános, Platys, and Kamínia — whose inhabitants stationed lookouts called 'vigilators' (vigilatores) on the summits of the adjacent hills, to give warning as soon as they saw pirate ships approaching. The geographical map of Lemnos marks approximately ten such 'lookout posts' (vígles). To these must be added the Skopiá (the highest peak of Lemnos) and the Skopós (the highest peak of Fakos). Of all the villages, Moudros suffered the fewest raids, which is why it remains in its original location.

The principal prehistoric and historic coastal towns and townships that were destroyed are: Poliochni, Vrósokopos, Sidióni (today Ágios Nikólaos), the Skála in the bay of Kéros, Nákia (today Axes), Chloí, Hephaistia (today Palaiópolis), Kotzínos, Papiá, and the Mikró Kastellí, discovered only six years ago by Mr. Tryfon Marangos, who predicts that the excavations to be carried out at that point will bring to light finds of the greatest importance; and finally Oraiókastron, today 'Vreiókastron', which lies to the left of one entering the bay of Kontiás.

Of the inland villages that no longer exist (some of which flourished until 1774), we know: Lagopátio (today Lagopát), Ypsipyleia or Ypsíli (today Psíl'), whose old buildings one can observe while descending the asphalted road at the bend where an old fountain stands; the Genovioi, a medieval town of the Genoese, situated about three kilometres east of the village of Atsikí; Alexópyrgos; and Trochalía, situated in the fertile plain of the village of Kontiás in the direction of Tsimándria, and of the greatest interest because the few archaeological finds discovered at a depth of six metres below the surface inside a well being dug by a cotton-farming peasant are of the finest artistry. On the surface nothing betrays the prehistoric city buried at such a depth, which is marked with an X on the archaeological map of Lemnos donated to us by Doctor Luigi Bernabò Brea.

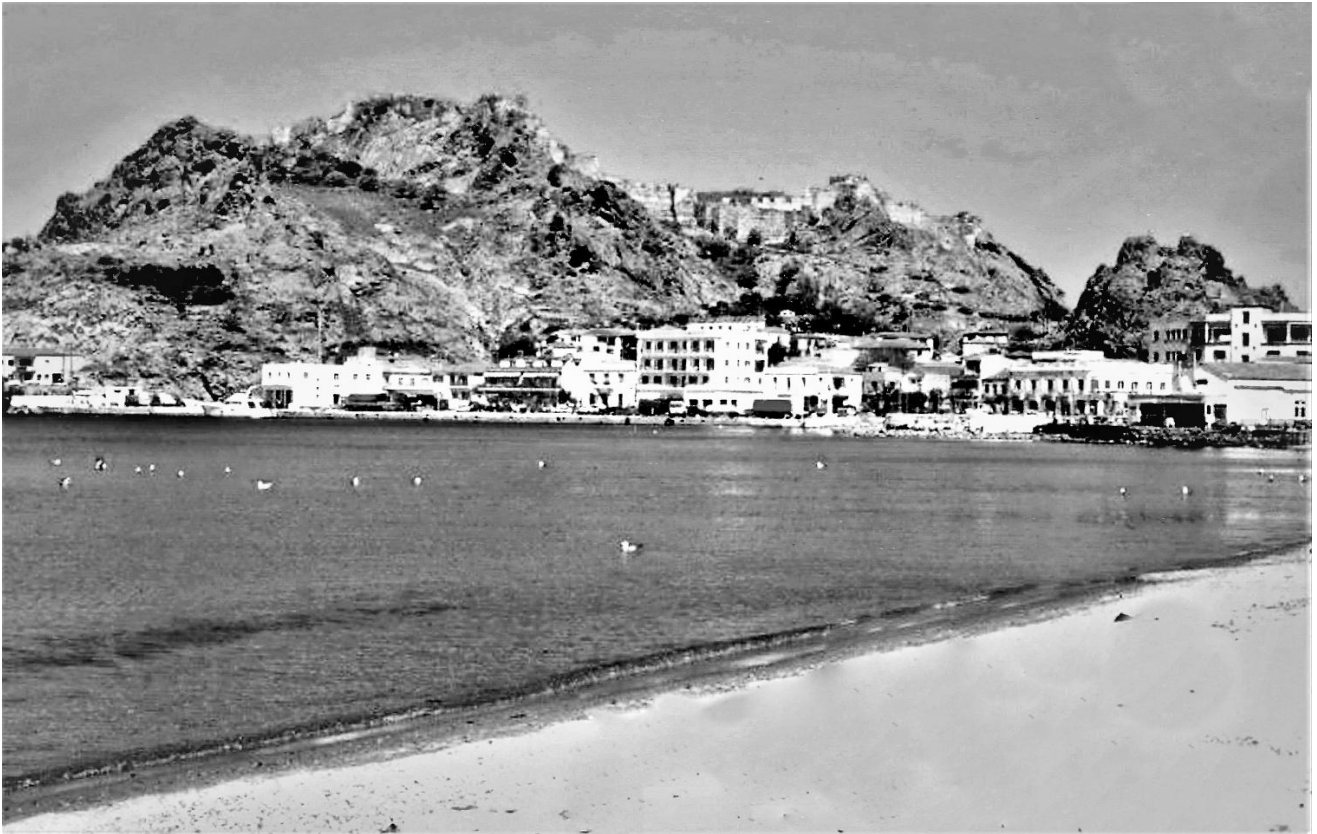
As soon as the lookout gave warning by a great fire, which he lit on the summit of his post, of the approach of pirate or other enemy ships, the inhabitants of the surrounding villages evacuated civilians into the interior of the Island and feverishly prepared to repel the enemy, gathering and fortifying themselves at the safest point of the village. The more prosperous inhabitants also constructed loopholes in the walls of their ground floor, so as to strike any enemy from within in safety. Such loopholes still survive on the walls of the house of the ship-owner Meintánis in Kontiás (today the property of Konstantínos Katrakázos), in which there are also artfully made secret recesses in which the defenders hid when the house was seized by the pirate brigands.

RELIGION — LETTERS

Occupations — Property and Customs

From the most ancient times the inhabitants of the island of Lemnos lived in peace and love, for a common external danger constantly united them. Although during prehistoric and historic times

Lemnos was called 'Dipolis' because two cities flourished on it — Myrina and Hephaistia — the inhabitants of the two cities never came into conflict throughout their three-thousand-year history. This is confirmed also by coins that have been found, bearing the word 'Myrinaion' on one face and 'Hephaistieon' on the other. Their devotion to their tribal interests and their great faith in Christianity, from the time before the capture of their Homeland by the Turks in 1479 and throughout the entire duration of their subjugation to the Turks, united and protected them like a mighty wall against their complete annihilation and disappearance.



Partial view of the capital. The SE part of the Venetian fortress, where the first inhabitants of the island lived

This ethno-religious unity of the Lemnians contributed to their resisting for centuries both the Turks and many other enemies, and to presenting, on the day of their liberation, the 8th of October 1912, their Island throbbing from end to end with Greek patriotic feeling — with beautiful churches in every single village, with more than five hundred chapels scattered across its entire extent, with Greek primary schools in every village, with a Metropolis seat and a Metropolitan bishop, with five Monastic Estates, with a Pan-Lemnian Committee administering the extensive Estate of the Metropolis for the benefit of the poor Lemnians, and with a dialect that is perhaps the purest of all the dialects of the then-free Greece. Around 1770 Lemnos was flourishing as never before. We learn

this from accounts of foreign travellers, who among other things state that the Island at that time counted about 200,000 sheep and goats; that it had 75 villages whose inhabitants were mostly farmer-herdsmen working on the estates of the Turks; that never before had the land been cultivated so diligently; that the inhabitants, feeling secure, were entirely devoted to their peaceful occupations; that the Voevoda (Turkish Governor) and the Kadis (the Judge) had their seat at Leivadochóri; that by the strict order of the Voevoda, the digging of Lemnian earth was forbidden to the Lemnians on pain of death; that around 1750 Lemnos counted more than 50 sailing vessels; that it had two shipyards in which the warships of the Turkish fleet ordered by the Sultan were also built, delivered within six months of being ordered; and finally that it was rumoured that the Lemnians would be permitted to found churches and schools once the relevant permit had first been granted by the Sultan himself. To all of this we will add what we ourselves have diligently and laboriously sought and gathered over 25 years. Despite this prosperity and progress, there was not a single fine church during that era of bondage. There were a very few small chapels entirely devoid of interior decoration, most of which have been demolished to make way for the churches now standing — because in the meantime the population of those villages had increased, which managed somehow to obtain permission for their construction.

Besides the small temples, each village also had its outdoor chapels, which is why they were and continue to be innumerable. Most of them lacked interior decoration, and many even lacked a sanctuary, so as to give the Turks the impression of poor abandoned farmhouses. They were usually built on the summits of hills, hillocks, and mountains, or in remote locations near springs called 'agiásmata' (holy waters); and on the day (once a year) when the saint to whose memory each was dedicated celebrated his feast, a divine liturgy was held (we might better call it a divine mystery under the conditions in which it took place) in the late midnight hours long before sunrise, by a celebrant who would bring on that day the icon of the saint, which the faithful Orthodox Christians kissed with devotion.

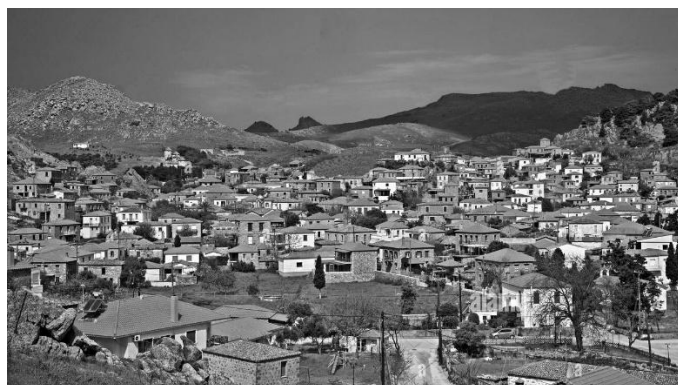
Many such outdoor oratories survive to this day in various locations of the Island in a most wretched state, half-ruined, causing grief to the passing Christian, yet at the same time a stern reproach of our Christian conscience — because within those small sacred spaces, forty generations of subjugated Lemnian brethren were nourished on the finest Christian and Greek ideals. Within them, with unshakeable faith, the forefathers of today's Lemnians knelt with contrite souls, praying for the liberation of their enslaved Homeland. Within these same chapels, the national martyr priests of that era fulfilled their most sacred duties and proved themselves worthy of their mission, demonstrating unquestionably on the 8th of October 1912 that religion is the homeland and the homeland is religion. It was these priests whom the Christian-persecuting Turks first tortured and killed, beginning with the Metropolitan Bishop of Lemnos, the Chian. We pass over the legions of national martyr clergy of all Greece who at various times were sacrificed for faith and Homeland until the end of the shameful for the Greek Nation, foreign-instigated, treacherous Bandit War,

during the course of which many hundreds of clergymen were tortured and put to death with unheard-of barbarity by the godless Slavo-Communist brigands.

On the feast day of each of the more than five hundred outdoor oratories, it was not only the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages who came, but also those from the most remote ones — as is still the case in our own day — such as for Saint Sózon, Saint Dimítrios, Saint Geórgios, Christ, the Panagia (Virgin Mary), Saint Panteleímon, the Holy Unmercenary Physicians, Saint Efthymia, the Holy Trinity, Saint Ermolaos, the Prophet Elias, Saint Athanásios, Saint Sofia, the Sotíra (Saviour), Saint Charámbos, Saint Eiríni, Saint Paraskevi, Saint Nikólaos, Saint Ioánnis, the Holy Theodori, Saint Fotída, Saint Varvára, Saint Marína, Saint Pávlos, Saint Kyriakí, Saint Efstrátios, Saint Ypátios, Saint Aléxandros, Saint Aikateríni, Saint Modestos, the Holy Apostles,



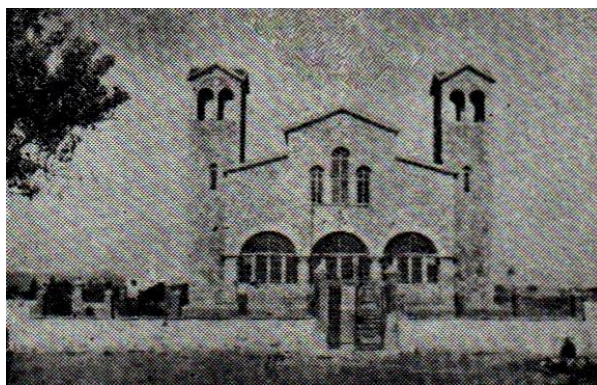
The teaching center of the village of Kondias - "Small University"



The village of Kondias

Saint Pelagía, the Transfiguration, the Dormition of the Mother of God, and many others. Later, with the tolerance of the Turkish Government, the Lemnians attended freely the official liturgies of the chapels of the Monastic Estates on the Island. In these Estates, until the day of the liberation of Lemnos, entry to the faithful was forbidden; it was permitted only with a special pass, while conversely, on the feast day of the chapel, the faithful subjugated Lemnians would flood the chapels and the surrounding area from the previous day, devoting themselves to all-night prayers until the morning of the following day. Such was their faith that when during the liturgy the hieromonk of the Estate, holding the icon of the saint being celebrated, invited them to kiss it, miracles occurred, of which the inhabitants of all the villages — Greeks and Turks alike — were instantly informed. The effect of these miracles, on the one hand, lifted the morale of the faithful in Greek Orthodoxy and, on the other, shook the religious fanaticism of the Turks to such a degree that they came to show indulgence and sympathy towards the subjugated Lemnians. Some of them, fearing the wonder-working saints such as Saint Geórgios and Saint Dimítrios, even dreamed that they were beaten by them in various ways. One of them, the large landowner Hatzí Osmán, distributed all his property — movable and immovable — to the Lemnians, saying: 'Vallah, may it all become "Romeika" (Greek).'

Another Turkish inhabitant of Kontiás did not dare to pass in front of the church of Saint Dimítrios, because one evening Saint Dimítrios had attacked him on horseback, holding a whip. Thus, towards the end of the 19th century, the religious fanaticism of the Turks of Lemnos had almost entirely vanished, and sincere friendly relations between the two ethnicities began to develop. The Turks who hated the Greeks did not exceed the number of the fingers of one hand throughout the entire Island, and perhaps for this reason the subjugated Lemnians at that time wrested many privileges. The principal contributors, however, to this kind of treatment of the Lemnians by the Turks were the diplomatic relations developed between the two states from 1847 and the European civilisation that had influenced the Turks. Thus, from 1860 in Lemnos, “Yeniçeri” were no longer recruited among Christian children. Conscripted Lemnians were enlisted together with conscripted Turks in the regular Turkish army or paid the so-called poll tax, which was collected by the 'Mouchtárides', who were mostly Greeks. Nevertheless,



The Church of Saint Nicholas of the village of Kondias, erected at the expense of Nikolaos Garofallidis"

many Lemnians, in order not to serve in the Turkish army, took refuge at Mount Athos or enlisted in the then-flourishing Lemnian merchant fleet. One of those who took refuge at Mount Athos to avoid being conscripted as a Turk is the ninety-year-old Lemnian from Andrónion, Mr. Geórgios Valéttas.

From 1840 onward, the Lemnians settled abroad — especially those in Egypt — contributed ceaselessly through donations and subscriptions to the erection of fine churches and schools, first in the capital of Lemnos, Myrina, and its suburbs of Andróni and Tsásis, and subsequently in all the villages without exception.

Many of the churches and schools bear on their facades the date of their founding as well as the names of their founders, benefactors, and donors. But the greatest benefit arising from the new Turkish policy and from their general treatment and goodwill towards the Lemnians for a henceforth more friendly coexistence was the many privileges granted to them for the first time: self-governance even in the smallest village; free departure with or without return to any part of the world; acquisition of immovable property or recovery of such property lost in the days of Hasan Hatzí Tzeizaerli; and the founding of churches and schools in all the villages with the approval or permission of the Sultan. While until 1848, Justice in accordance with the *Şeriat* (Turkish religious law) had been

administered to the whole population by the Kadis, from 1850 onwards it was administered by Commercial Courts composed of seven Turks and seven foreign associate merchant judges, with the aim of reconciling Turks with foreigners on the basis of existing laws rather than issuing judgements. In these courts, however, according to the Capitulations, an interpreter of the Consulate of the litigant and a representative of the Consul were also present. In Lemnos, as in the other small islands and villages where there were no consuls, interpreters, or their representatives, the compromise decisions of the Commercial Courts were always favourable to the Greeks and foreigners. On matters of specific personal ties of Greek Muslim subjects, however — such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, etc. — the Kadis (religious judges) remained in charge; these often required the parties to submit a relevant fetvan, i.e. an official opinion of Islamic religious law.



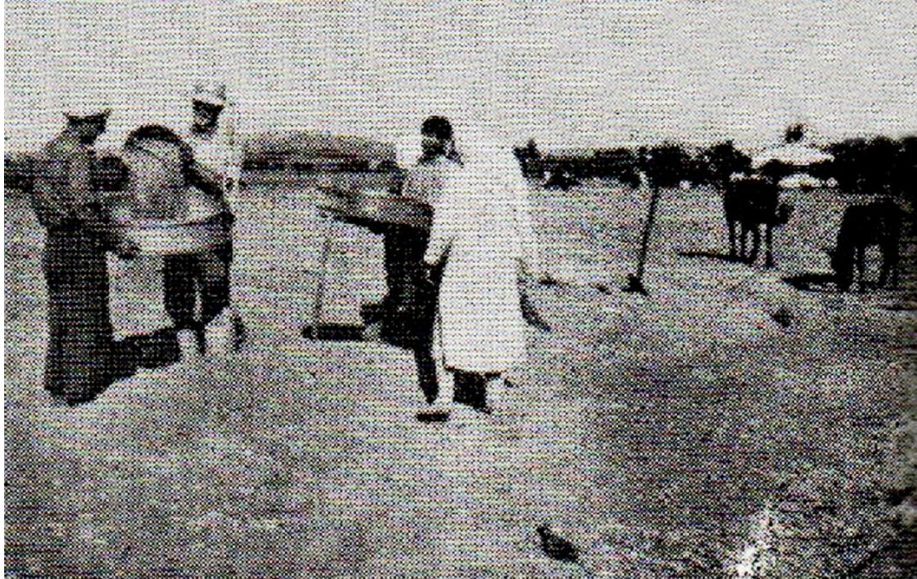
The village “Katalakos”

The fetvás were issued by the Fetvá Hane (House of Fetvás) based in Constantinople on behalf of the Ulema (learned Turks). Such fetvás were later also issued in the free Greek State by the Muftis, for whom the agreements between Greece and Turkey of 1881 and 1913 made provision.

The tezkerêdes were granted by another official Turkish authority and were either a travel permit, a permit to practise a profession, a title deed, or a certificate of Turkish nationality. In the hands of today's elderly Lemnians there are many tezkeredes because, long before 1912 — the year of Lemnos's liberation — the more prosperous among the kiachagiádes and many Lemnians residing abroad purchased the immovable properties of Turks, namely houses, vegetable gardens, orchards, fields, and farms with sheep and goats, seeds, tools, etc., and in order to have title deeds they concluded valid contracts signed by official and recognised authorities.

Prisons in Lemnos during the Ottoman period, called *konák* (the final *k* being lightly pronounced), existed only in Myrina, where the Hospital of Lemnos stands today. In the same building was also housed the police station, the *karakol* (the *l* being lightly pronounced), with a force of 50 *zaptiyés* (gendarmes).

Mosques (*tzamia*) the Turks had only 4 throughout the entire Island: two in Myrina, one in the village of Kornós, and one in *Ágios Ypátios* — the largest and finest. In this last mosque the Turks living in the villages of the northern, southern, and eastern parts of the Island worshipped; they did not exceed 2,700 persons of both sexes and all ages, of whom 700 inhabited the village of Léra, recently renamed '*Ágios Dimítrios*'.



After threshing, the sifting

The Turks living on the island of Lemnos belonged to two categories: on the one hand, the senior state officials exiled at various times by the Sultan — including pashas, beys, *efendis*, and other titled men — and on the other, porters and blacksmiths. The trade of the blacksmith in those times, when the fields were cultivated with ploughs drawn by oxen, various primitive iron tools were manufactured, and around 80,000 pack animals were shod, was highly profitable for the completely illiterate farriers — the so-called "*katsiveloí*" (Gypsies) and Turks.

Turkish schools functioned only three throughout the entire duration of Ottoman rule in Lemnos. One stood where the Office of the Regional Agricultural Officer now is, on the Turkish Waterfront; another where the residence of the teacher *Efrém Serafeteinídis* is, on the fine harbour square on which the modern hotels *LEMNOS* and *AKTAION* stand; and the third in the village of Kornós, which was founded at the expense of the then well-established in Egypt, Lemnian from Myrina, the late *Geórgios Pantelídis*. The first was built at the expense of the equally well-established at the time in Egypt, *Triandafyllos Stráftis*, and the second at the expense of many Lemnians from Egypt. These Lemnians, who in this way benefited the Turks, were not motivated by philoturkish sentiments. It was known to all that these

benefactions of theirs had one exclusive aim: to appease the Turks and consequently to allow the subjugated Lemnians to enjoy a relatively comfortable life — to whom indeed the Turks, in gratitude, granted both freedoms and many privileges.

Friendly Turkish titled landowners are remembered by the elderly Lemnians living today in the various villages, and they recount many anecdotes and examples of understanding and sympathy on their part. One of them, whose name we have unfortunately been unable to find in our notes, was so benevolent towards his hard-working, family-man *kiachagías* that, although he noticed the



The farmer from the village of Kondiaç, Mr. Savvouras



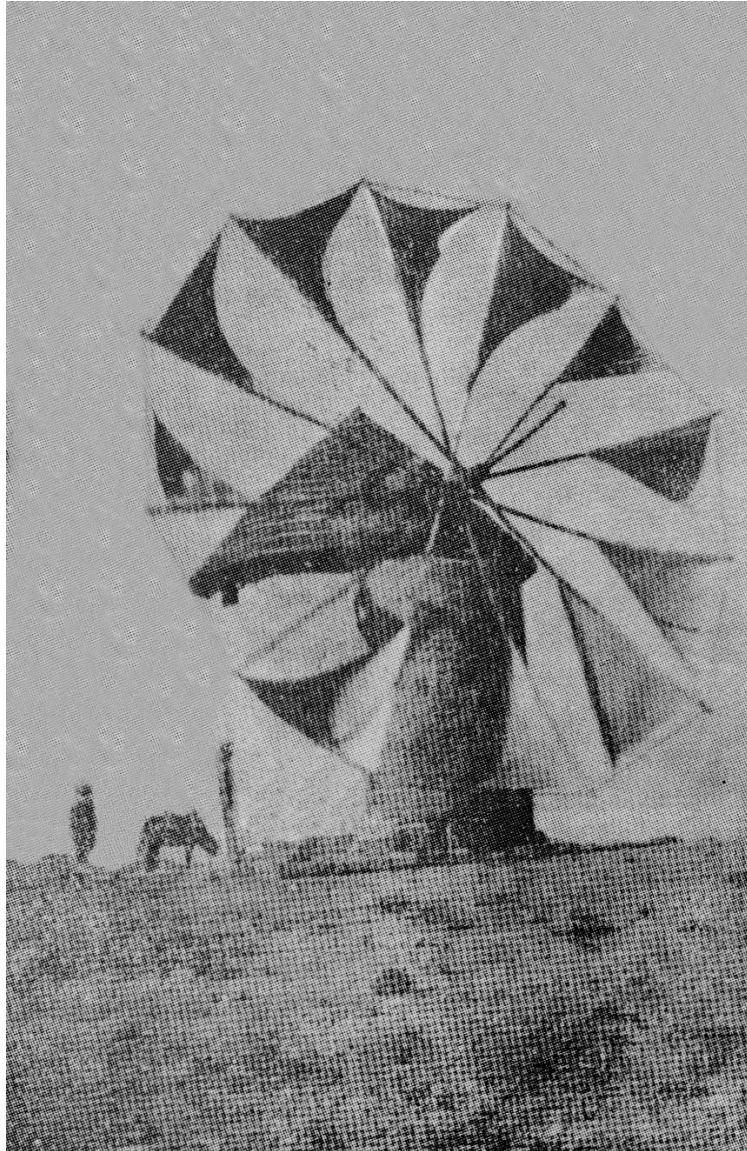
Festive costume of a Lemnian farmer. Mr. Th. Zervos, Tsimandria

kiachagías had stolen more than half of the heap of wheat ready for distribution in the threshing-floor, he neither rose up nor said anything. When, however, at midday, after the open-air meal in the shade, the dishonest *kiachagías* asked: 'Were the macaroni good, master?', the master replied with a laugh: 'Macaroni good, *kiachagías*, but the heap flew away.'

In the village of Romanoú they remember six Turkish large landowners, the greatest of whom was called Tahír Bey.

The village of Sarpi, now Kallithéa, had only one Turkish landowner, Hatzí Osmán, of whom we have already spoken.

The village of Kómi until 1870 was inhabited exclusively by Turkish farmers and forty horsemen (atli, ati = horse), and was therefore called the village of the forty horsemen. These, without fail, annually took part during the Ottoman period in the horse races of the village of Kalliópi for the benefit of the chapel of Saint Geórgios; they did not compete with the locals, however, for they were unrivalled. The village of Kontopoulli had two philhellene Turkish landowners: Tzafer Efendi and Hasan Efendi.



Windmill in the village of PANAGIA

The large Turkish landowners in the village of Pourtianoú were: Tziá Efendis, universally known for his philhellenism; Houlkí Efendis; Ibrahím Saïter; Bahá Bey; and Resít Efendis. Concerning the last two and their relatives, the late Dimítrios Skapétis — who died a decade ago in Myrina but was originally from Kontiás and had married in Pourtianoú — told us the following shortly before his death: 'The Turk Bahámbeys from Pourtianoú, a large landowner, had four children, one of whom was called Resít. He sent all his children to church and had them learn Greek. When Resít grew up, he did not differ in any way from the Greeks, because he kept company only with Greeks, and at the

Greek houses he visited he would always ask for skylopsar (dog fish). By skylopsar, however, he meant pork kavourmás (braised meat), which is forbidden by their religion. Were it not for him, the thieves who came to Pourtianoú with their leader — the notorious pirate Psyroukis — would have stolen much, killed many, burned the village, and escaped. But Resít got them drunk in the coffeehouse and then took them to his house, where he made them blind drunk. Meanwhile, the people of Kontiás sent word to the Fortress, and after some hours 34 zaptiyés arrived to capture them at Ágios Giánnis; not finding them there, they lay in ambush. The pirates, however, were late in appearing and the zaptiyés fell asleep. Near dawn, as the pirates were leaving Pourtianoú and descending laden with plunder carried by men and animals, when they reached Ágios Giánnis they

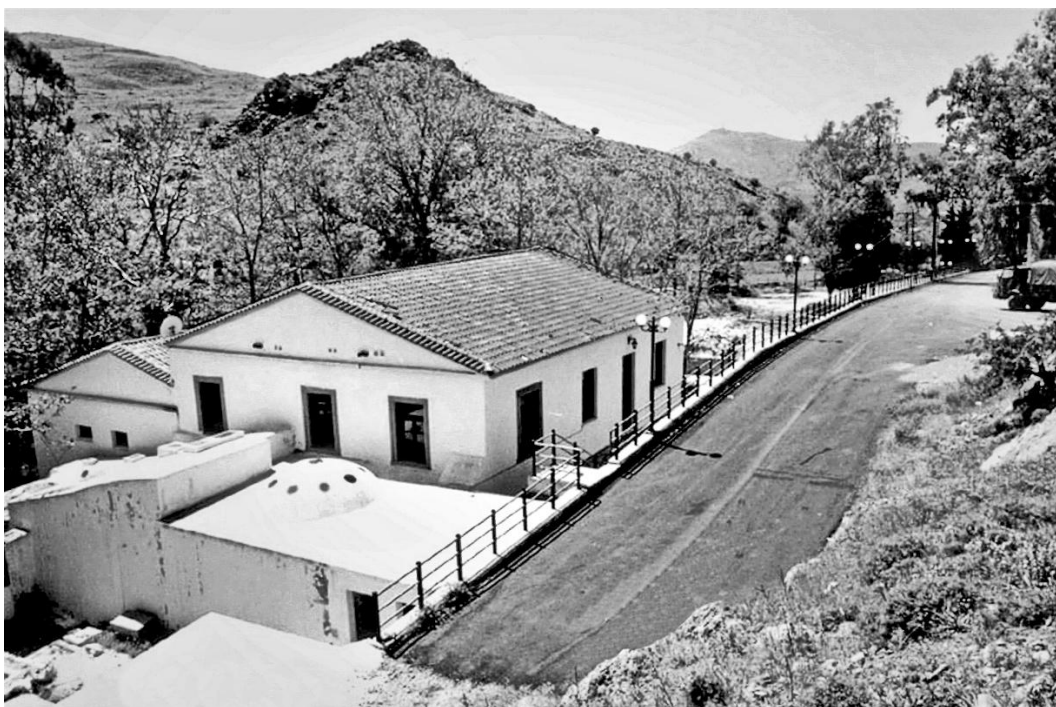


The village of Repanidion

saw a Turk standing and shot him, thus waking the other Turks — whereupon a proper battle ensued, in which Captain Psyroukis was killed along with his lieutenant Alekos, their ammunition having been exhausted. The other pirates managed to reach their boat and board their ship, taking with them the elderly Kamiliéris, Aléxandros, who was a chanter at the Holy Trinity at the Fortress and had a farm at Monítis. When the pirates learned who he was, they put him ashore at Agía Thymia (Saint Efthymia — a chapel). In this way the Island was saved from the terrible pirate Psyroukis, who had ravaged our Homeland many times, although he was a Lemnian from Atsikí. Once he and his crew at Pláka scalded the elderly Hatzí Charámbos with boiling oil to make him reveal where he hid his valuables. Well, the father of this Resít, called Bahá Bey, fell in love with a Greek Lemnian woman from Pourtianoú, a free girl of the Podárás family, and to marry her he took her to Ágios Efstrátios to have her converted to Islam. Her brothers, who were older than her, heard of this immediately and took a boat to go to Ágios Efstrátios to stop them and kill Bahá Bey. But the two lovers sensed it and returned to Lemnos in the same boat. The brothers, returning to Lemnos in their

own boat, drowned midway in a great storm, and the sea cast both of them ashore at Evgátis, embracing. Thus, Bahá Bey, having converted the girl, married her and they had four children: Resít, Rezá, Taouffk, and Selími. Of the four children, only Resít turned out a philhellene to such a degree that his children played only with Greek children and all wore Constantinata (Byzantine golden coins worn as ornaments).¹

In this way, in the year 1854, the last pirate of the Northern Aegean, Psyroukis — a Lemnian by origin — was killed. His name is also borne by the geographical map of Lemnos, to the left of one entering the bay of Kontiás, at the very spot where he clashed with the Turkish gendarmes (zaptiyés).



The facilities of the therapeutic hot baths “THERMA”

In the three mountain villages of Katálakkos, Svérdia (now Dáfni), and Sardes, no Turk was ever settled, not even for a brief period, throughout the entire duration of Ottoman rule.

In the village of Thános, no settled Turk is remembered. There was, however, a Turkish outpost at the position of Patéli in the bay of Thános, for the suppression of tobacco smugglers etc., which survives in a converted state to this day. The three villages of Léra (today Ágios Dimítrios), Kontovráki, and Koróni were inhabited entirely by Turks, and the owner of the famous watermill at the position of Tzorváles was also a Turk. After the liberation, Léra and Koróni were incorporated into the Community of Svérdia (now Dáfni) until 1923, when each of them formed its own Community, as they had been settled by Greek refugees from Asia Minor. The first community council of Svérdia–Léra–Koróni was composed of Charálambos Baxevanérís, Dimítrios Vekiaréllis, and Garofállos Svanás. The most prosperous Turk in Kontovráki was called Alí Efendis, whose son, named Suleïmán, served for years as deputy governor of Lemnos. The village of Atsikí also had prosperous Turks, as well as landowners and blacksmiths. It flourished among the foremost and was known as the pre-eminent commercial village of Lemnos. The greatest merchants of the village of Atsikí were Grigórios Vagiákos, grandfather of the present

merchant and maritime agent Mr. Grigórios Vagiákos, and Nikólaos Pantelláras. In the year 1909, Mr. Charálambos Baxevanéris, then 28 years old, remembers that on going to Atsikí from Svérdia on business, he was asked by Grigórios Vagiákos to escort two Greek spies, disguised as Turks, to the village of Város.

THE ESTATE OF THE METROPOLIS

MONASTIC ESTATES — CHURCHES — SCHOOLS

The Estate of the Metropolis received this name because it served for many years as the seat of the Holy Metropolis of Lemnos. Beneath the existing and functioning chapel of the Dormition of the Mother of God were found the remains of a larger church, and around it the ruins of a small settlement — from which one may easily conclude that the farm of the Metropolis once belonged to an authority seated outside Lemnos, and that by reason of the excellent quality of its land and its great extent, it could not at that time have belonged to anyone other than the Emperor of Byzantium, as many other notable estates also belonged to him. Had it belonged to some Monastery of Mount Athos, it would have been held by the hieromonks until 1924, when all the Monastic Estates on Lemnos were expropriated for the benefit of the landless cultivators of the Island, or we would have learned this from silver-sealed or gold-sealed documents (Argyrovoullon or Chrysovoullon) of some Athonite Monastery. Since the Monasteries are thus excluded, it remains only for us to accept the Byzantine Empire as the exclusive original owner of the estate. This is confirmed by countless silver- and gold-sealed documents in favour of Athonite Monasteries and churches, for the issuance of which only the Emperor of Byzantium and members of the Imperial family had the right.

The said farm, of approximately 3,000 stremmata extent and property of the Byzantine Empire, was donated by Constantine Palaiologos XI in the year 1442 for the benefit of the poor Lemnians, entrusting its entire management to the then-Metropolitan Bishop of Lemnos, who — in order to supervise its exploitation more closely — transferred the seat of the Metropolis from the capital Myrina to the Estate. From that time, it has been called the Estate of the Metropolis, and its revenues until the liberation were entirely devoted to the relief and assistance of the poor Lemnians, as this was the wish of the donor Emperor Constantine Palaiologos XI.

At that time, in our opinion, a notable church was built together with a residence for the Metropolitan Bishop, which later also served as the Seat of the Holy Metropolis of Lemnos, and various other auxiliary buildings forming in their totality a small settlement.

The Emperor donated the farm to the Lemnians because they all expressed in every way their love for him and their grief at the death — which occurred within the fortress that year — of his wife, the Empress Aikateríni, who was buried with honours within the very fortress of Kotzínos and interred with imperial honours. When, however, in the year 1479 Lemnos was captured by the Turks, both the Estate of the Metropolis and all the Monastic Estates of Mount Athos on the Island fell under their possession.

These were returned some years later, thanks to the diplomatic activity of the Patriarch of Constantinople, Gennadios Scholarios, who was favoured by Mehmet II the Conqueror because he opposed the Union of the Eastern Church with the Western Church. The management and administration of the Estate of the Metropolis was then taken over by a committee formed from representatives of all the villages, called the Pan-Lemnian Committee, which around the beginning or end of the 16th century erected the chapel of the Dormition of the Mother of God and some agricultural and livestock installations. Later, the 'Pan-Lemnian Committee' was renamed the 'Central Committee for the Administration of School and Church Property', and after the liberation from the Turkish yoke in 1912, the 'Pan-Lemnian School Fund'. From 1927 it has been governed by Law 3437



Building in the village of "Dafni" donated by Panagiotis Vergos



The church of Agios Modestos, Katalakon Village

and continues to be administered by a ten-member committee elected every three years by electors from all the communities of the Island. Throughout its long history, it was cultivated sometimes by sharecropping (as is still customary in Lemnos today) and sometimes by being leased to Lemnian tenants. But whether leased or cultivated by sharecropping, its net revenues were, without exaggeration, unworthy of mention — for compared with the revenues of other farms in Lemnos which yielded annually 15% of their value, the Estate of the Metropolis yielded barely 2%. Its installations provoked pity, dread, and indignation, for compared with the enclosures of any farm in Fakos — the most remote and barren part of the Island — they were as inferior as a poor farmer's hovel compared to a villa. If one considers that from decades of centuries until the year 1949, midway through the 20th century, despite the rapid advances in agriculture, this unique estate of Lemnos had only one 'old well' serving to water the flock and the other draught animals; that it had not a single paved threshing-floor; that throughout its vast extent there was not a single tree; and that its inhabitants procured drinking water by water jar from a distance of about two kilometres — one may easily, we think, form an accurate picture of the wretched state of this... Imperial Estate.

We, residing abroad, had not until the year 1947 had occasion to know the Estate of the Metropolis from close quarters, although we visited our birthplace without fail every year. When,

however, in that year we were also elected a member of the Ten-Member Committee and visited it out of duty, we were genuinely astonished and rose up in indignation before its most wretched installations. We saw jumbled together the paving stones with which the courtyards of the sheep pen, stables, haystacks, and sheds had been paved. We saw innumerable small and large pits with refuse of all kinds, on which swarms of thousands of most contented flies settled, and an indescribable disorder. After this, feeling morally obliged — first to the coming generations of Lemnians and second to the electors who had honoured us with their trust — we took the decision to act in opposition, even though we knew in advance that we would be attacked relentlessly by the



Church of Agia Sophia, Village Agia Sophia



The church of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary in Moudros

envious drones of Myrina, as indeed occurred. But we paid them no heed, we persisted, and ultimately achieved our aim.

In our efforts, from the very first moment until the submission of our resignation, we were supported unreservedly and without hesitation by only two members of the Governing Ten-Member Committee: The Inspector of Primary Education, Mr. Nikólaos Pierrákos, animated by pure Greek sentiments and a man of upright character, and the progressive, distinguished Lemnian landowner, the late Dimítrios Zavalakis, whose relevant interesting letter we reproduce below.

Our first action was the submission of the following proposal:

Kastro (Myrina), 19 April 1947

To the Pan-Lemnian Committee — hither.

Esteemed Gentlemen,

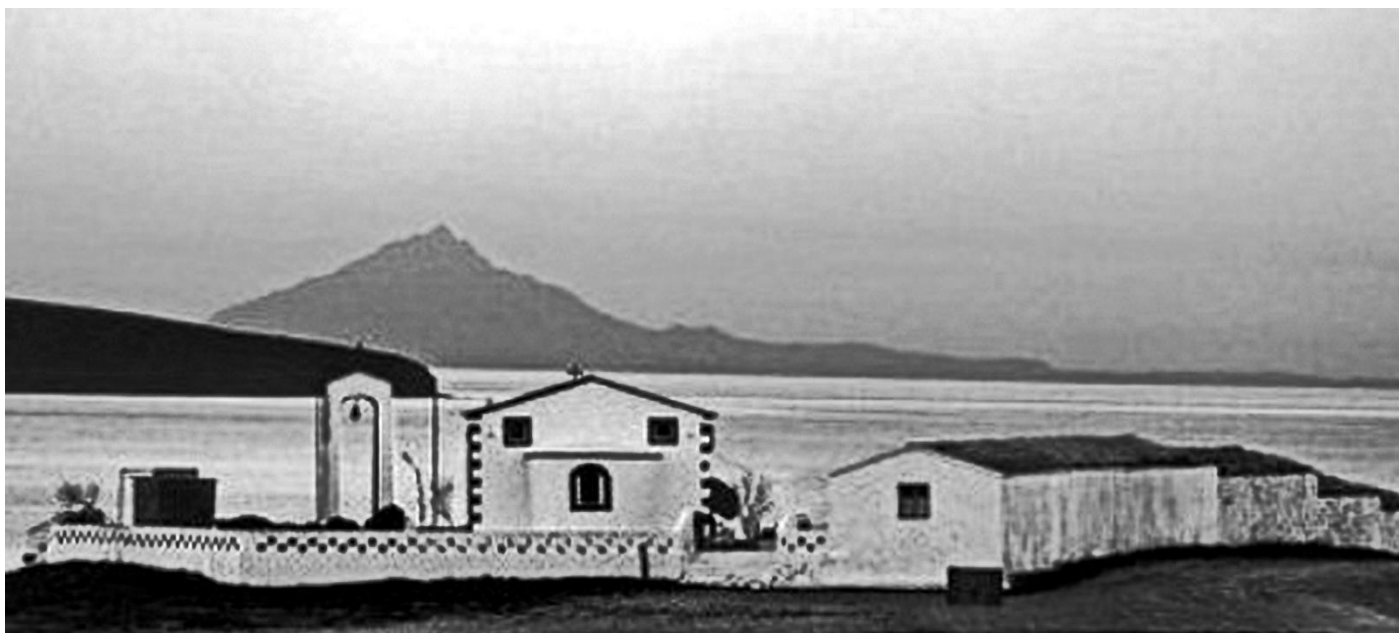
...This vast and concentrated Estate, I am of the opinion, must henceforth be scientifically self-cultivated.

If for the forthcoming agricultural year 1947–1948 this is impossible, let it be cultivated again cooperatively as before, on condition that the Board of Directors at its first meeting decide to hire and install on it a permanent paid employee, so that he may personally supervise the erection of new, modern installations. The Estate, in addition to the usual installations, must acquire: a pigsty in

which pigs of improved breeds are raised, a STABLE, a DAIRY COWSHED with foreign-bred milking cows, a systematic SHEEP FOLD with a CHEESE DAIRY, a POULTRY YARD, a PIGEON LOFT, a RABBIT FARM, a BEEHIVE of 500 or more hives, a PETROL-POWERED PLOUGH, a SEEDER and a REAPING MACHINE and other equipment, as well as residences for the employees, so that the Island shall acquire an exemplary agricultural-poultry-livestock station. But, most importantly, the Metropolis Estate must take on the appearance of a vast orchard. By planting only 10 trees per stremma in very straight parallel rows, so that cultivation from a technical standpoint does not encounter the trunks, and so that their combined shadows do not prevent the sun's rays from exerting their beneficial effect upon the plants, it will take on the appearance of a vast orchard of approximately 50,000 trees.

Not wishing to elaborate further into details, and convinced that I have given a faint picture of the estate which our Homeland must acquire, it is my opinion that the Governing Committee must not spare expenses and sacrifices, but proceed swiftly and boldly for its development. With respect,

LEONIDAS GERONTOUDIS



The chapel of Saint Charalampos of the village of Plaka.

The fruitless sessions and discussions that followed for four months forced us to submit our resignation on the 9th of August of the same year, once we had been ABSOLUTELY convinced that sooner or later everyone would come around to our view. Today, every doubting Thomas, in order to place his finger upon the mark of the nails, need only visit the site. He will confirm that the Metropolis Estate is indeed of imperial provenance, honouring the Lemnians, today, 23 years after the submission of our resignation.

Indicative and relevant of the fermentations, sessions and consultations that followed after the submission of our above proposal is the letter below from the late Dimitrios Zavalakis, who developed the estate at the location of Palaia Portoria into a model one for the entire Island.

"Dear Mr. Gerontoudis, I received your note and I gladly reply to you.

Besides the members, please also invite the Mr. Eparchos, the Inspector, the three agronomists and the two tenants, Mr. Charilaos Monos and Mr. Antonios Trochalis.

I shall endeavour to come down on Tuesday so that we may consult also with Mr. Raftopoulos for a thorough study to be made. We must not become the gravediggers of our Association at its most critical moment.

With affection, Your willing friend,

Palaia Portoria, 20/7/1947 DIMITRIOS ZAVALAKIS"

Now, tree planting remains to be done. For the record and out of obligation to future generations of Lemnians, we reiterate that the Metropolis Estate must be planted with trees over its entire extent, save for a small section of 100 stremmata, which will serve for the cultivation of profitable vegetables, and shall then develop into an orchard, a tree garden and a commercial garden for floriculture and nurseries.

The Estate in one year's time will border the expanding airport and will have the advantage and convenience of directly dispatching its products not only to all the provinces of Greece, but also to many European countries.

On this occasion, we also recommend the dense tree planting of its boundaries, so that its extent may cease to shrink imperceptibly. And since Greece is included together with other countries in the sericulture zone of the Earth, it would not be pointless to prefer the mulberry trees, which develop rapidly on Lemnos.

The response to the submission of our resignation on the part of the Committee of the Pallemniakon School Fund reads as follows:

PALLEMNIACON SCHOOL FUND

Protocol No. 304

In Kastro, 8th September 1947

To Mr. Leonidas Gerontoudis, Hither

In reply to your letter of the 9th of August of the current year, we have the honour of informing you of the following: The report submitted to us regarding the exploitation of our agricultural estate "Metropolis" could not be approved, because owing to the poor harvest this year, the tenants would not have been able to settle the current year's rent. Moreover, they also owed part of last year's rent, which they were likewise unable to pay.

By the retention of the same tenants at the Metropolis Estate for this year as well, the Body received from them all outstanding arrears. On this matter, we inform you that the Body, by its Decision No. 182 of the current year, accepted your resignation as a member of the Committee and expresses its warm thanks to you for your cooperation.

The President

the General Secretary

P. I. Raftopoulos

Nikolaos Komninos

The founding of schools and churches in all the villages of Lemnos without exception began rapidly from the year 1830.

Concerning one of these schools — perhaps the oldest — after the massacre of the Lemnians by the Turkish military forces of Hassan Haji Dzejairli, the English traveller Hunt records the following: "In the school operating on Lemnos in 1801, a graduate of the School of Ioannina was teaching for an annual salary of 500 grosia. In which village or location of the Island he does not mention. But even these few facts suffice for us to pride ourselves as Greeks. The fact that a mere thirty years after the atrocities suffered by our race on the small and powerless island of Lemnos, a school was founded and operated in which the Greek language was taught, is one of the many miracles that refer exclusively to Greek History."

The year of founding of the cathedral church of the capital Myrina, "Holy Trinity," is unknown to us. It was demolished by Hassan Haji Dzejairli in the year 1770, and its reconstruction began in 1835



On 25 March 1956, farmers of Lemnos in kiahagiá costume are celebrating in the square of the Port [Myrina], to the accompaniment of the lyra

at a very slow pace due to financial difficulties, despite the moral and material assistance of the Council of Elders, the Ecclesiastical Fund of the inhabitants and the contributions of Lemnians settled in Egypt. Thus, we learn that in 1865 the timber used was donated entirely by the only licensed Lemnian captain of the time, the late ship-owner Emmanouel Danezis, who brought it by his sailing ship from Odessa. We find the same man later wearing the official uniform of a captain, as a graduate of the Maritime School of Trieste, and serving as captain on various steamships of the Pantaleon Steamship Company, some of which also called at Lemnos. By his wife Evangelia, of the great and aristocratic Katakouzinou family, he had seven children: Savvas, Georgios, Dimitrios and the daughters Charista, Elisavet, Maria and Evangelia. The first of his sons, Savvas Danezis, settled in Madagascar and worked as a merchant; Georgios likewise settled in Suez as a merchant; while Dimitrios, remaining on Lemnos, rose to become one of the greatest Lemnian merchants. From 1820 to 1870, the Katakouzinou brothers Savvas and Charalampos were celebrated on Lemnos. The first was a distinguished captain employed by foreign steamship companies, while the second

was the consul of Greece, initially in Massawa in Eritrea, which was then under Egyptian control, and subsequently in Jeddah, the port of holy Mecca, where he engaged in trade in Persian carpets, pearls, rubies and precious stones of the Red Sea.

The two bell towers of the cathedral church of the Holy Trinity were erected entirely at the expense of the late Lemnian ship-owner Pavlos Psarof. Thereafter, through donations, contributions and fund-raising, the Lemnian notables, residents of Myrina, took care of the interior decoration and furnishing of the church, and especially of the admirable iconostasis, which was recently gilded by the noble lady Tzella, wife of Admiral Frangopoulos and niece of the great benefactor of Lemnos, Georgios Christodoulidis. The same lady Tzella Frangopoulou also donated to the Student Welfare Canteen, as executor of the will of the late Georgios Christodoulidis, the most imposing mansion on Lemnos, built in the year



The church of Saint Georgios of the village of Atsiki.

1868 by the late Stylianos Christodoulidis, the wealthiest Lemnian settled in London. During the last years of his life, he used to bring by steamship four Swiss cows — first two for a month and a half, and then another two for the remainder of his holiday.

The church "Panagia" of Tsasi was about to be built at his own expense by the late Konstantinos Vodas. To this end he had enclosed with a high wall the large courtyard of the old communal school, the old cemetery of the church, and the present almond grove. However, on the day when the foundation stone of the currently operating church was to be laid, he was arrested by the Turkish Governor and prosecuted on the charge that he was seeking to erect a fortress of the Philiki Etaireia, of which he was a member. On the day of the adjudication of his case in Constantinople, he sat crushed on the defendant's bench, certain in advance of his conviction. However, as soon as he began his defense speech, the President of the court recognised in the defendant his childhood friend Vodas, with whom he had been intimately acquainted and had played as a child when his family lived in Tsasi, next to the paternal home of the young Vodas at the time. He was so moved by

his defense speech that not only did he solemnly acquit him, but also embraced Vodas warmly before all the astonished persons present. Upon returning to Lemnos, he found his relatives and friends in mourning, lamenting what they believed to be his captivity. As a consequence of this adventure of Vodas, the initiative for the founding of the church of Tsasi was taken by the ship-owner Panagiotis Laskaridis, who organised a fund-raising campaign among the then numerous Lemnians settled in Russia; and since the amount collected fell far short of the required total expenditure, the difference was paid by himself and the great merchant of Tsasi, the late Apostolos Paraschos or Karatzas. Thus, in the year 1857 the church "PANAGIA" of Tsasi was erected, among whose great donors are counted the brothers Thomas and Pavlos Katsikogiannis and Ioannis Vertsonis of Platys, settled in Khartoum, at whose expense the church acquired an excellent



The church "Agios Dimitrios" of the village of Kontopouli

electrical installation. A few years later Thomas Katsikogiannis also purchased the house of Sentik Pasa — who had been exiled to Lemnos by the Sultan — situated near the Romeikos Gialos, east of the ETHNIKON hotel.

A great benefactor of the church of Tsasi is also mentioned the late Panagiotis Seremetis, settled in Egypt, who, apart from his donation to the church of Platys consisting of an almond grove of 300 almond trees and a small house, also donated 45,000 Egyptian gold pounds to the EVANGELISMOS hospital in Athens. This considerable sum he had intended to offer to his native homeland Lemnos, but donated it instead to the Evangelismos because the Council of Elders and the Greek notables of Myrina greatly displeased and distressed him.

Apart from what we mentioned above, the late Panagiotis Seremetis erected at his own expense in Mansoura, a city of Egypt, an imposing complete Greek secondary school, recognised by the Greek State, with a boarding school within an extensive tree garden, thus honouring Lemnos, Greece and Egypt alike.

The church of Androni "Saint Panteleimon" is one of the oldest churches of Lemnos. It was founded in 1840 on the initiative of the benefactresses Melpomeni Vasilaris and the Marangos family, and in 1860 its narthex was renovated.

The church of Kontopouli "Saint Dimitrios" began to be built in the year 1869 at the expense of the late Dimitrios Dimitriadis, settled in Egypt, and from contributions of Kontopouli natives residing abroad; in 1903 it was completed at the expense of the late Emmanouel Dimitriadis and his wife Despina, who two years later also enclosed the present cemetery at their own expense. The sum required for the erection of the bell tower of the church "Saint Dimitrios" was offered by the Kontopouli compatriot of Egypt, Konstantinos Mavroudes.

In the year 1937, Panagiotis Efstratiou, resident in Egypt, erected at his own expense



Transport of cereals and pulses from the threshing floor.

the chapel of Saint Anastasia, while Vasileios Alikatoras built its bell tower. Nine years ago, the Kontopouli compatriot well-established in Salisbury, Rhodesia, Mr. Pantelis Vafeas, offered the sum of £1,000 sterling to the church of Saint Dimitrios; and later the Kontopouli natives settled in America donated \$1,500 for its embellishment.

The church of Saint Georgios of the village of Kalliopi was built in 1869 at the expense of the late Hatzigiannis, settled in Russia. It is known throughout the Island that on the 23rd of April each year the entire village celebrates, and that horse races also take place without fail each year. The horse races are preceded by the festive gathering of four to five thousand, on average, festival-lovers and sports enthusiasts. During these, the horses are ridden without saddles or stirrups, as in the days of Ottoman rule, and each competing group consists of twenty horses. The flat race covers a distance of three kilometres, and the starting point is at the location of Skafidi, where previously there was a chapel of Saint Georgios. The winner who arrives first at the church of Saint Georgios of the village of Kalliopi is awarded by the judging committee a gold medal, which it is however customary to adorn the

forehead of the winning horse, after it has first been led into the narthex where it is blessed by the priest.

The church of Pesperago "Saint John the Forerunner" was built in the year 1862 by Ioannis Tziros of Karolos, resident in London, on behalf of the late Dimitrios Karlis, settled in Egypt.

The church "Panagia" of the village Panagia was built entirely at his own expense by Anastasios Diamantis, settled in America, who for this purpose allocated the considerable sum of \$6,500 in the year 1865.

The cathedral church "Nativity of Christ" of the village of Romanou was built in the year 1830 by the late Hatzisevastou.

The church "Dormition of the Theotokos" of the village of Tsimandria was founded in 1856, and in 1911 the Lemnians from Tsimandria settled in America offered various sums for its renovation and decoration.

The church of Saint Georgios of the village of Kariones was built at the expense of Panagiotis



The church " Presentation of the Theotokos" of the village of Varos

Kourniotis, settled in America; Angelos Glitzos, settled in Australia; and the village residents Evangelos Kafes, Fotios Karamoschos, Evangelos Mperdes, Charalampos Tsakizos and Christos Amditis.

The church of Saint Modestos of the village of Katalakos was founded at the expense of the residents of Katalakos and is one of the oldest on Lemnos, having been founded in the year 1856.

The church of Saint Georgios of the village of Repanidion was founded under the following circumstances: The people of Repanidion, imbued with the desire for freedom, erected within one month in the year 1860 a small chapel resembling a house in the middle of the present cemetery. Upon the completion of its construction, and not fearing its demolition by the Turkish authorities — as a relevant law on demolitions prohibited this — they proceeded boldly with its fitting-out, arrangement and completion, thus acquiring at their own expense the present church without a Sultan's permit.

The church of Kornos "Dormition of the Theotokos" was built in the year 1892 from money raised in collections conducted among the village residents, but mainly thanks to the considerable sum offered by the late Sir John Antoniadis, settled in Alexandria, Egypt. Relations between Greeks and Turks throughout the entire period of Ottoman rule were excellent. Large Turkish landowners residing in Kornos were: Faslis Amet, Kalfas Amet, Serif Efentis, Moularas Halil, Latif Efentis and Ismail Hatzoker. Among the greatest benefactors of the village is Lazaros Politaridis, settled in Egypt, who devoted 1,500 Egyptian pounds for the extension of the water supply network.

The church "Dormition of the Theotokos" of the village of Kaminia was built at the expense of the villagers themselves in the year 1852, on the initiative of the Committee of the Ecclesiastical Fund and the Council of Elders. Throughout the entire period of Ottoman rule, no Turks settled in the village of Kaminia.



The church of Saint Georgios of the village of Platy.

The church of Saint Nikolaos and the School of the village of Skandali were built at their own expense by the village residents and the Skandali natives settled in Egypt, who contributed various sums. Among the greatest benefactors of the village is the late Konstantinos Doukarellis, resident of Egypt. At his expense the village acquired a notable cemetery with a small chapel therein, and the church of Saint Nikolaos was also enriched with various valuable ecclesiastical vessels.

The church of Saint Georgios of the village of Kaspaka was built at the expense of the village residents in the year 1858 under altogether exceptional circumstances. In Kaspaka resided the very philhellene great Turkish landowner Sentik Pasa, exiled to Lemnos by the Sultan. Wishing to benefit the residents of Kaspaka effectively, he advised them to proceed as quickly as possible — within very few days — to lay the foundations of a church in a prominent position, and then to conceal the foundations by backfilling. After the passing of one year, he advised them again to form a committee of three persons, which, presenting itself to the Turkish Governor residing in Myrina, should state that they had found the foundations of an ancient church and that on the same foundations they wished to erect a church. Indeed, following this, the Governor three months later granted a permit for the founding of a church in Kaspaka. For the water supply, provision was made at his own expense by the late Ioannis Miserlis.

The church of Saint Paraskevi of the village of Thanos was founded in the year 1880 from contributions of the Thanos natives settled in Egypt. Today the greatest donors of the church are remembered as Christina Garyfallou, settled in Egypt, who offered the sum of 1,000 Egyptian pounds, and the Thanos Association of America, which has offered and continues to offer considerable sums to the Community, the Ecclesiastical Committee and the School Board.

The church of Saint Pachomios of the village of Karpasion was built in the year 1901 on the initiative of the village Elders, from contributions of Karpasion natives residing abroad and at the expense of the Committee of the Ecclesiastical Fund and the residents.

The church "Presentation of the Theotokos" of the village of Pourtianou was built in the year 1875 on the initiative of the Committee of the Ecclesiastical Fund and the Council of Elders of Pourtianou, at the expense of the village residents. Among the great benefactors of the village is



The chapel of Saint Paraskevi at Kotzinos.

counted Athanasios Vafeas, settled in Egypt, who at his own expense conveyed by pipeline from a distance of three kilometres — specifically from the agricultural estate of Chalka — abundant water to his fellow villagers.

The church of Saint Dimitrios of the village of Plaka was first founded in the year 1840, and in 1896 it was enlarged from the foundations at the expense of the village residents.

The church of Saint Marina of the village of Livadochori was founded in the year 1905 at the expense of the village residents, on the initiative of the Council of Elders and the Ecclesiastical Fund.

The church of the Annunciation of the Theotokos of the village of Moudros was founded in the year 1904 on the initiative of the Council of Elders and the Ecclesiastical Committee, from contributions of all the village residents. Before the founding of their cathedral church, the residents of Moudros were secretly taught Greek writing and language in the cells of the chapel "Taxiarchis", belonging to the Metochion of the Monastery of Holy Lavra at Moudros. From small objects found during a recent excavation within its grounds, it is surmised that the chapel was founded around 1370 by Alexios III, surnamed the Great Komnenos. After the Metochion was expropriated in the year 1924 — along with all the Metochions of Lemnos — in favour of landless cultivators, the chapel

of Taxiarchis was completely renovated and operates today in good condition, with a gilded iconostasis of excellent 16th-century woodcarving craftsmanship. In the narthex of the chapel, during excavation for its renovation, three tombs were found containing human bones. Around 1835 it is said that within the grounds of the said chapel, the first Primary School of Lemnos was founded, with the permit granted by the same Voivode.

The church of Saint Dimitrios of the village of Kontias was founded at the expense of the village residents and of the Kontias natives residing abroad, especially the merchant-captains, who willingly offered various sums.

The church of the Presentation of the Theotokos of the village of Atsiki was built at the expense of the then residents of the village and of the Atsiki natives settled abroad.

The church of Saint Georgios of the village of Sarpion or Kallithea was built in the year 1886 with



The Holy Church of Saint George (Agios Georgios) in Repanidion

the contribution of all the village residents and of the Sarpion natives abroad, on the initiative of the Committee of the Ecclesiastical Fund.

The church of Saint Dimitrios of the village of Rossopoulion began to be built in 1910 and was completed in 1912 with the support of all the village residents and the Rossopoulion natives of Egypt, as well as the Committee of the Ecclesiastical Fund.

The church of Saint Dimitrios of the village of Lychna was built in the year 1924.

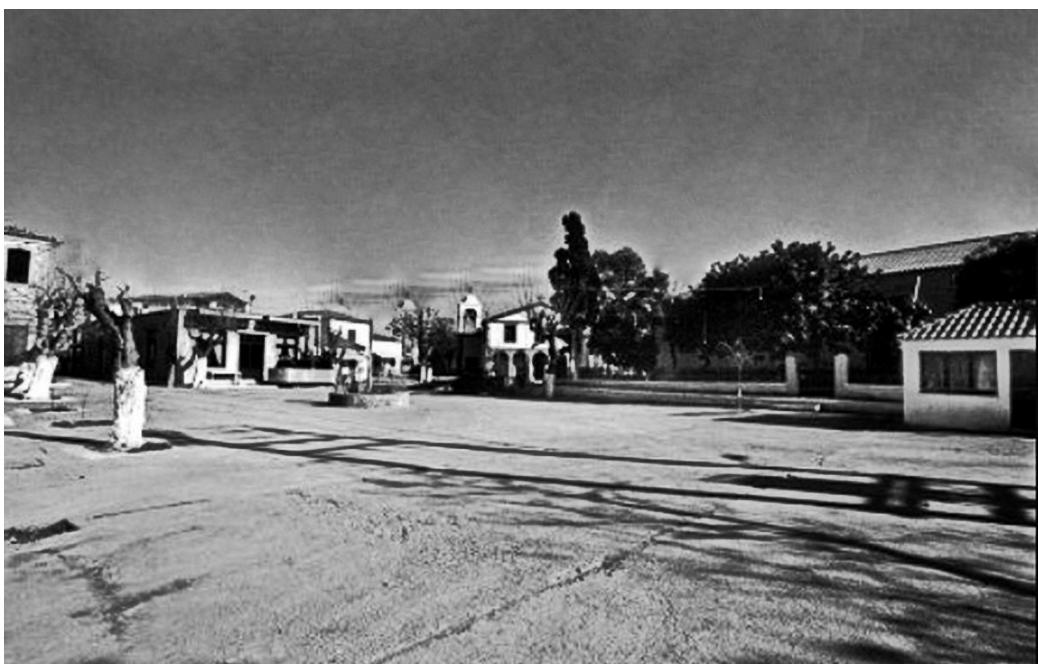
The church of the village of Varos "Presentation of the Theotokos" was founded on the initiative of the Council of Elders and at the expense of all the village residents in the year 1867.

SCHOOLS

Which of the schools was founded first during the Ottoman period on the island we do not know. However, since Hunt mentions among other things that when he visited the Island in 1801 the then flourishing villages were Kontias, Moudros, Repanidion and Livadochori, we must accept that the first permit for the founding of a Greek School was extracted from the Turkish governor by the

Hieromonks of the Metochion of "Taxiarchis" of the Holy Lavra of Mount Athos at Moudros, on the condition that it be built within its grounds, so that it might operate covertly and ostensibly as an appendage of that Metochion.

One of the oldest schools of Lemnos, operating freely since 1848, is that of Sarpion (today Kallithea). Those attending it were Greek Lemnian children of the villages of Varos, Karpasion, Atsiki, Sardes, Sverdia, Livadochori, Pesparagon, Pourtianou, Kariones, Tsimandria and Kontias. Our father, born in the year 1863, also attended this school for two years, walking to and from it daily on foot with other fellow-villagers of the same age. This school was founded by the late Doukas Palaiologos, settled in Egypt, who bequeathed to it a considerable sum for the provision of free books to all pupils, for the salary of the teacher and for its general upkeep. As soon as the inauguration of the school took place, he offered also to build a church in Sarpion, but his offer was not accepted by the residents, so that he would not be commemorated as a



The village of Tsimandria.

benefactor. After the Second World War, the late Alexandros Ioannidis bequeathed to it two houses, a farmhouse and fields of 130 stremmata, with a total value of 500,000 drachmas.

The kindergarten of Myrina was founded under Archbishop Ioakim in the year 1888 at the expense of the late Dimitrios Parisidis, and an inscribed plaque on its facade reads as follows:

*"As long as infants sing with angelic voices,
the name of Parisidis shall they hymn,
for he benefacted souls truly pure,
knowing where the progress of the Nation resides."*

The First Primary School or Town School of Myrina was founded in the year 1902, and on its

facade is inscribed: "Music-loving Lemnians built this School; Nikolaos Hatzis Dallis brought it to completion with generosity."

The Primary School or Girls' School of Myrina, situated on the beach of Romeikos Gialos, was founded at the expense of Odysseas Pantelidis in the year 1902, on the condition that he build at his own expense three large fine houses, which served as residences for the Turkish officials of Myrina. Odysseas Pantelidis, although he deeply loved his native homeland Lemnos, bequeathed nothing to it, because, as it is said, the then notables and Council of Elders of Lemnian Myrina persistently and insistently endeavoured to displease him.

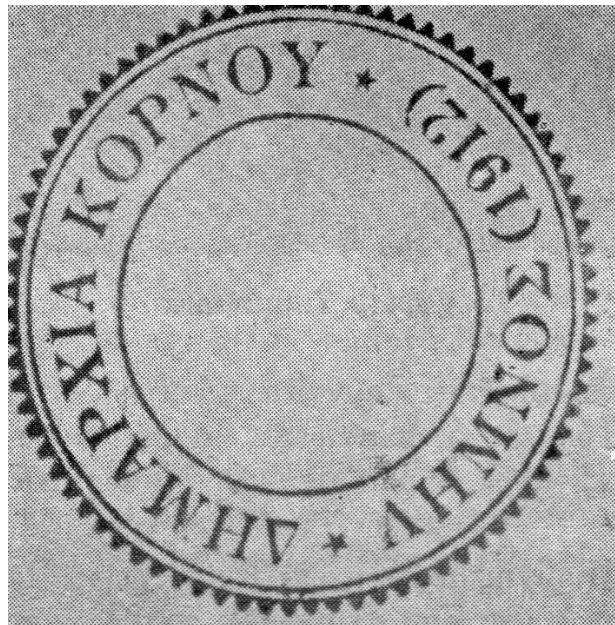


The church of Saint Ioannis of the village of Pedinon.



The school of the village of "Daphni."

He left his great fortune to his four sisters, of whom the late Despina Sanopoulou benefacted Myrina in many ways. She, some years ago, offered a notable sum for the replacement of the desks



The seal of the Municipality of Kornos under Ottoman rule.

in all classes with new ones, in the Primary School founded by her brother, and also for the replacement of the furnishings of both the School Directorate and the six classes.

The Primary School of the village of Varos was founded in the year 1886 from contributions of all

the residents, and when it later fell into disrepair a new one was built on the initiative of the late Dimitrios Zavalakis and Nikolaos Triantafyllidis, with the support of the Lemnians settled in Egypt, in the year 1908. In the village of Varos resided the large Turkish landowners Moulas Samari, Hafous and Besim. The first of them sold his agricultural estate of Palaia Portoria in the year 1914 to the late Dimitrios Zavalakis, while the estates of the other two were distributed to refugees from Asia Minor. A large Turkish landowner in the village of Karpasi is remembered by the resident of Varos, Mr. Pantelis Tsikaris, as Memet Gkringos, who was slaughtered by a Lemnian at the agricultural estate of "Achrous," whence the name of the location.



The one who served his village and Lemnos the most, Secretary of the Kornos community, Mr. Ioannis Pantzaras



The village of Moudros

The Primary School of Andronion was built in the year 1880 on the initiative of the Council of Elders and the Ecclesiastical Committee, from contributions of all the village residents.

The Primary School of Tsasi was built at the expense of the late Vasileios Sarantis, settled in Egypt, in the year 1886; the first teacher to teach in it was called Apostolidis.

The Primary School of Romanou was founded in the year 1906 at the expense of the late Garyfallos Papaioannou and operated without interruption until 1936. It now houses the Carpet-weaving School for girls.

In 1936, the late Konstantinos Papadopoulos, who had served for many years as President of the Community of Romanou, offered the sum of 25,000 drachmas for the purchase of a plot on which a new Primary School was built. At the expense of the same Papadopoulos, the village of Romanou also acquired notable communal washing facilities. In 1928, Vlotina Papacharalampos offered 7,000 drachmas for the school garden to be enclosed with a wall. Vasileios Passadellis



A lady farmer from Lemnos with a spindle

donated 25,000 drachmas for the renovation of the church "Saint Konstantinos." Konstantinos Katakouzinis donated 20 English gold pounds in favour of the church "Saint Konstantinos," and Theodoros and Despina Karanikola donated a field valued at 5,000 drachmas in favour of the Community.

The Primary School of Kontopouli was founded in the year 1910 by the late Olga Antoniou Sachtouri at the behest of her father, the late Emmanouel Dimitriadis.

She also donated a plot of land to the athletic club of Kontopouli "Hephaistos," following the sale of which the present ground of the Association was purchased. In 1930, Konstantinos Evangelidis, settled in Egypt, built the Second Primary School in Kontopouli.

The School of Pespéragon was founded in the year 1900 at the expense of Stratis Kalogeras, settled in Egypt. Among the great benefactors are remembered the late...



The village of Kornos



A troupe of young Greek women from the Catechism School and the Scouts of Lemnos, under the direction of the Scout Leader of Lemnos, Mr. Georgios Mantzaris.

...of the late Hatzi-Charalampou and Tsiplias, who each donated 1,500 dollars for the water supply of their community, drawn from a distance of 1,700 metres through a piped conduit under the sea from the location of Agios Vlasios; and the centenarian Charalampos Diamataris, who donated his property on the village square, on whose plot the Community Office was built.

The School of Rossopoulion was erected at the expense of Georgios Diamantaridis, resident of Alexandria in Egypt. In total he contributed the sum of 360,000 drachmas, with which — apart from the school — the existing water reservoir was constructed, and the water supply network was extended throughout the entire village.



The village of Daphni

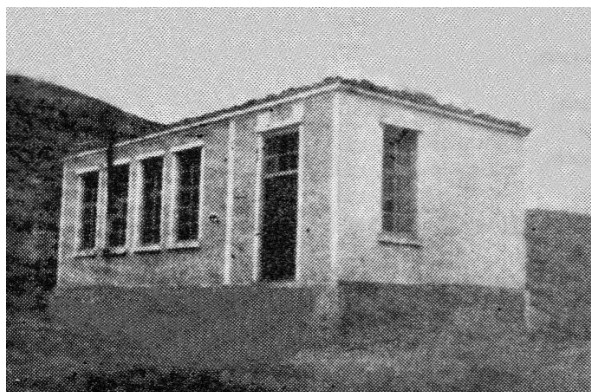


The School of Atsiki village

At this point it is fitting to mention Mr. Georgios Markos, who served for a number of years as president, as one of the outstanding personalities not only of Rossopoulion but of Lemnos as a whole; for through his moral and financial support of every fellow citizen he succeeded in giving the village of Rossopoulion, during his time, the appearance of a developed community, on account of the countless public works carried out on his initiative, and also because in dire and critical moments

during the Greek civil war and after it, he kept the torch of national loyalty burning undaunted in his district, thus dissuading many of his fellow villagers from being swept away by the deceitful slogans of the treacherous enemies of our homeland, Greece.

The School of Lychna was erected in 1910 by the late Dimitrios Makris, resident of Egypt, who



The school of the village of Katalakon



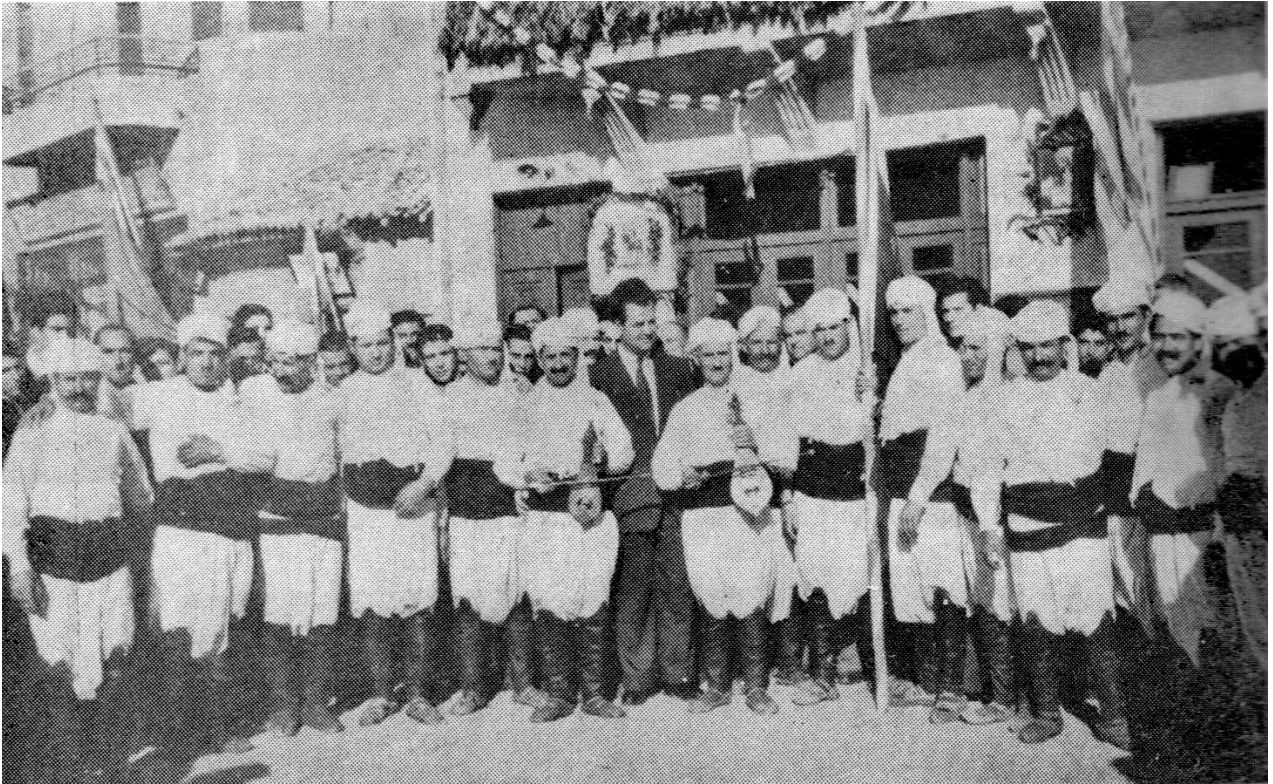
The school of the village of Kontopouli



1960 — The teachers and a group of male and female students of the Gymnasium (High school) of Lemnos

also took care of the water supply of his village. The great benefactors of the village of "Lychna" are Grigorios Pantazis, who donated 500 dollars for the internal water supply network; Christos Agalias; Marianthi Chletsou; and Chrysanthi Styliianou, both of the latter residing in America; and others. The School of Tsimandria was erected in the year 1902 by the late Christos Kalantzis, resident of Braila in Romania; the first teacher to instruct there was the Reverend Priest Papapanagiotis Kontaridis. One of the greatest benefactors of the village of Tsimandria is the late Sotirios Kotsinadelis, resident of America. He conveyed abundant water to his fellow villagers through a piped conduit from a distance of one kilometre — specifically from the location of the chapel of

Christ — and at his own expense constructed a fine and spacious fountain in the village square. Those who contributed to the progress and development of the village of Tsimandria are, above all, Mr. Antonios Karantanglis, who served as secretary of the Community for over thirty years, and



"Kiahagiades (traditional shepherds) from the village of Kondias celebrating March 25th, 1956. In the center, we can see the unforgettable agronomist Kostas Mydaras, who was officially decorated in Alexandroupoli by the Prefect of Evros, in the presence of His Eminence the Metropolitan and other officials."



A troupe consisting of the graduating students of the Lemnos Gymnasium (High school). The student portraying the role of the priest is the honors student, Christoforos Gerontoudis. To the left of the bespectacled professor are the students Maritsa Patrikianou, Elisavet Sykiotou, and Ioanna Mila. To the right of the other professor are the students Roula Grigoriou, Vagiakou Tassoula Kavouridou, and Alex Hontou."

the long-serving presidents Ioannis Giannaros, Panagiotis Zervos, and Ioannis Haramis.

For the repair of the old school of Karyones, various monetary amounts were donated by Christos Amditis, Evangelos Mperdes, Panagiotis Kourniotis, Sarantis Tzarimis, and Sultana, widow Tsarsi; while for the construction of the village aqueduct contributions were made by Panagiotis Kourniotis, Angelos Kalantzis, Efstratios Gaitanis, Marika Mitsilia, Malama Kourniotis, Maria Kourniotis, and Georgios Kourniotis. As the great benefactor of the village of Karyones, Evangelos Mperdes, resident in America, is commemorated, having bequeathed a considerable monetary sum



Details of the Costume of the Kiagiades (farmers of Lemnos)

for the conveyance of an adequate quantity of water to his village through a piped conduit from a great distance.

The School of Thanos was founded at the expense of the late Stylianos Garyfallou, resident of Egypt, who devoted the considerable sum of 1,200 gold Egyptian pounds. The great benefactors and donors of the village of Thanos are the Association Thanioton of America, which through the considerable sums it has donated — and continues to donate — many noteworthy public works have been accomplished, such as: the enclosure of the cemetery of Agios Charalampos with a high wall; the repair of the old cemetery of Agia Paraskevi; the beautification and renovation of the

chapels of Agios Ioannis, Agios Dimitrios, and Agios Konstantinos; the repair of the Community School, to which it donated a school cinema projector; the renovation of the Community Office; and the construction of two new bridges. Following these are: Pantelis Karvelis, resident of Egypt, at whose expense the village of Thanos acquired a water reservoir and communal washhouses; Kon. Plantzos, who took care of the beautification of the village; and Efanthia Katsika, resident of Rhodesia, who in 1959 allocated the sum of 25,000 drachmas for the renovation of the church.



His Eminence the Metropolitan of Lemnos Dionysios, with on his right the beloved and esteemed by all Lemnians, Eparch of Lemnos Mr. Evangelos Vertsonis, and the Director of the Branch of the National Bank of Lemnos Mr. Evangelos Kellaris. On his left, the then Inspector of Primary Schools of Lemnos and now General Inspector of Primary Education of the First Region of the Ministry of Education Mr. Panagiotis Galliotos, the wife of Mr. Galliotos, Mrs. Semeli, and Mrs. Persephone Kontogianni. — Some of those pictured are the teachers Messrs. Isidoros Damalas, Gkialis, and Papamichelis; Police Chief Mr. Maragkakis; the Reverend Vasilios Klapos; the Secretary of the Pan-Lemnian Association Mr. Charalampos Rodakis; the attorney Mr. Panagiotis Varitis; the entrepreneur, hotelier, and contractor Mr. Konstantinos Kagialikos; and the former presidents of the Community of Kaspaka, Antonios Pardalis and Kostas Fragkos.

The School of Kaspaka was founded in 1905 through the personal labour and contributions of the inhabitants of the village.

The School of Kornos was founded in the year 1900 at the expense of the late Ioannis Pantelidis, then resident of Egypt. An outstanding personality of the finest Lemnian character in the village of Kornos is Mr. Ioannis Pantzaras, who served as secretary of the Community for 30 years. The services he rendered to his fellow villagers and to his village in general, with exceptional nobility and conscientiousness, are judged, without exaggeration, to be inestimable.

The School of Repanidion was founded in the year 1874, together with accommodation for the

1. teacher of the time, at the expense of the Church Treasury and from contributions of the inhabitants. It operated without interruption until 1932, when the present building was erected at State expense. Before 1874, the people of Repanidion, in their desire to give their children a Greek education, sent them to a windmill in which a teacher by the name of Kiatipis secretly taught Greek history, Greek writing, arithmetic, and reading, receiving minimal remuneration. Later, the Greek children of Repanidion were sent by their parents to Kotzinos, where in a pottery workshop they were taught Greek writing, reading, and history by a lame teacher from Moudros, whose name, unfortunately, no one now remembers. Thus were the generations of Greek Lemnians formed during that long centuries-old servitude; and Repanidion, until the day of Lemnos's liberation — and for that very reason — today does not follow, but leads in all national manifestations. In this village today, you will meet the decorated officer and now retired elder, Mr. Charalambos Papavassiliou, who generously gives, like wise advisors, the right directions on any issue concerning his village, and often in the interest of all the people of Lemnos.

There one will encounter a noble teacher, Mr. Kon. Valakos, who for thirty years educated thousands of Greek children and passed on to them the flame of the conscious, steadfast, and proud Greek. In this village the visitor will meet the teacher Mr. Aristoteli Valakos, son of the aforementioned. He recently had the honour of addressing, from the balcony of the Municipal Building in the capital of the island of Lemnos, the Honourable Vice-President of the saving National Revolutionary Government and Minister of the Interior Mr. Styl. Pattakos, with an address so apt that he was enthusiastically applauded by 8,000 Lemnians. But there is also another son of the dignified teacher Mr. Kon. Valakos — Mr. Panag. Valakos, the Director of the OTE (Greek Telecommunications Organisation) of Lemnos. Public opinion regards him as the pre-eminent orator of Lemnos, and he is therefore called upon by the authorities to deliver the commemorative address on national holidays.

The Marmara brothers settled in Australia originate from the village of Repanidion, who honor not only Repanidion, but also Lemnos and Greece, for the interest they show and the care they provide for all the Greeks settled in this hospitable and allied Continent. The greatest benefactors and donors of Repanidion are: Mr. Odyss. Marmaras, Vice-Consul of Greece in Melbourne, Australia; Athan. Marmaras, who through the monetary sum of 130,000 drachmas he donated contributed to the village's acquisition of a complete internal water supply network; the Repanidion residents in America, who donated 110,000 drachmas for the renovation of the holy church of Zoodochos Pigi at Kotzinos; Georgios Hatzi Antoniou, who endowed the Primary School of Repanidion with farmlands valued at 100,000 drachmas; Dimitrios Kangis, resident in America, who donated the sum of 2,500 dollars for various needs of his village; Ioannis Liberios, at whose expense the stone staircase of 65 steps of the church of Zoodochos Pigi at Kotzinos was constructed; the Repanidion residents in America who renovated the School and through a collection reinforced the Church Treasury of their village; and many others.

At this point it is fitting to recall Mr. Vasilios Papathanassiou, who served as President of the Community of Repanidion, as a steadfast Greek, a very good man of Repanidion, and a very good Lemnian.

The School of Sverdia or Daphnis was founded under Metropolitan Gennadios in the year 1900, on the initiative of Charalampos Mpaxevaneri, a native of Sverdia. When Metropolitan Gennadios advised the Ecclesiastical Committee to invest its surplus in bonds, he maintained that he was in a position to arrange for a school to be built with those funds, if a relevant permit were obtained from the Sultan. The Primary School of Sverdia having thus been established, the Greek children of the village ceased to travel to Kontovrakio, where they had been taught Greek in the cells of the old church of the Holy Unmercenaries, built in 1866. Later, the Greek families of Sverdia, since Kontovrakio was mostly inhabited by Turks, moved to the location of Sverdia, where later, in the year 1909, they erected the now-existing and functioning church of the Holy Unmercenaries, whose columns were transported with great effort from the location of Tzovades, situated between Sverdia



The Lemnos Philharmonic Orchestra, established at the expense of the benefactor Mr. Panagiotis Vergos, from the village of Dafni."

and Kontovrakio, where to this day remnants of a ruined old church survive, belonging to a Metochion seized by force by the Turks in 1770. The elderly residents of the area recall that a lively Turkish youth climbed and sat with evil intentions upon the Holy Altar of the old church of the Holy Unmercenaries of Kontovrakio, and that the Holy Altar began to spin with such speed that it became necessary to summon the priest in haste to pray in supplication for the child's deliverance. Indeed, after the supplication the Holy Altar ceased to spin, but the child expired and was buried in the Turkish cemetery at Agios Ypatios. The residents of the area also recall that in Agios Ypatios, a few years before the liberation, there lived the terrible persecutor of Greek Orthodoxy, the Turk woman Deli Serfe. Agios Ypatios, today "Ag'pat," was a village of modest population, situated on the right shore of the bay of Mpournia. However, about one hundred years ago, all the Greek families residing there moved mostly to the village of Repanidion, a few to Kontopoulion, and a very small number to the village of Panagia.

The greatest benefactor of the village of Sverdia or Daphnis is Mr. Panagiotis Vergos, resident in

America. This Lemnian of the finest character, having visited Lemnos a decade ago, erected at his own expense in his village a notable building, which today serves as the Community Office, as accommodation for the priest and his family, as accommodation for the teacher, as offices and warehouse of the Agricultural Cooperative of Daphni, as a community warehouse, and also as a guesthouse. In addition, he donated 3,000 drachmas for the beautification of the War Memorial; 35,000 drachmas for the repair of the Church; 18,000 to the School Board; 8,000 drachmas for the extension of the internal water supply network; 7,000 drachmas to the Community; 5,000 drachmas for the repair of the aqueduct; and 3,000 drachmas for the purchase of a small garden, which was converted into a square.

The great love of the great benefactor of Sverdia, Mr. Panagiotis Vergos, was not confined to his village alone. It was also manifested on behalf of the capital of Lemnos, which at his expense acquired a dumper truck to transport refuse away from the town, as well as a complete Philharmonic



A group of the Philharmonic Band of the Municipality of Myrina in the year 1955. Above, first from the left: Christoforos Gerontoudis, Georgios Papadopoulos, Vasilios Peristeras, and Evangelos Kampouris. Seated: Spyros Papaspyridon, Georgios Krystallas, and Dimos Petrou.

Band with all its fittings and supplies — namely, uniforms, musical instruments, etc. Most recently, Mr. Panagiotis Vergos donated to the Holy Metropolis of Lemnos a fine private car, now in use by the Metropolitan. The village of Nea Koutali, having been settled after the liberation of Lemnos and after the Asia Minor Catastrophe, was naturally to acquire the church of Agia Marina and a fine Primary School only some twenty-five years ago. The settlement of the inhabitants who escaped in 1923 from Koutali — an islet in the Propontis and homeland of the world-famous wrestler Panagis Koutalianos, who from 1892 defeated in America all the world-famous professional wrestlers of the Earth as well as weight-lifters — was originally placed under the Community of Pesperago. However, quickly, thanks to their vitality and commercial ability, the Koutaliani formed their own community, after which they distinguished themselves not only in commerce but also in sponge-fishing, thus contributing to the emergence of Lemnos as a centre of the sponge trade. Today they possess notable sponge-fishing fleets, ranging as far as beyond Cyrenaica.

The great benefactors and donors of the village of "Nea Koutali" are: the Association of Koutalianon of America; the Ladies' Association of Koutali "The Immortal Rose," based in Cleveland, Ohio; Christos Pantazoglou; Dimitrios Kairis; Ioannis Emmanouel; Georgios Psarras; Dimitrios Papadopoulos; Georgios Kalafatis; Theodosios Christoforidis; Aikaterini Pappas; Marika V. Emmanouel; Sotirios Moraitlis; Artemis Kalafati; and many other residents of the village. Today Nea Koutali has a self-sufficient water supply and a large reinforced-concrete water reservoir.

The building of the old School of Kontias, erected in 1884 by the Ecclesiastical Committee next to the church of Agios Dimitrios, today houses the Police Station (Gendarmerie) of the Kontias district. For its erection, the Church Treasury and Kontias residents living in Egypt provided financial assistance. The fine six-class schoolhouse currently in operation was founded at State expense in the year 1931 during the government of Eleftherios Venizelos, at which time the schools of the other



"In the center, Christoforos Gerondoudis, Captain of the ocean-going vessel 'PAIAN', celebrating with Lemnians residing in Australia, during a longshoremen's strike in Sydney."

villages of the island were also founded. The known donors to this "Small University" are: Nikolaos Garofallidis, who donated a pendulum clock 2½ metres tall and a monetary sum with which new desks were made for all classes; the Association of Kontianon of America "Agios Dimitrios"; Konstantinos Tsohas; the Consul of Greece in Beira, Dimitrios Vergis; Stylianos Giannakis; Anastasios Zafeiriou, resident of Morocco; Ioannis Giannaros; Apostolos Moutzouris, resident of Rhodesia; Christos Giannakis of Komninos; Christos Louskos; Maria Karagianni, resident of Rhodesia; and Georgios Karastavrarkis, resident of Transvaal.

The greatest benefactor of the village of Kontias after the liberation of Lemnos is the late Nikolaos Garofallidis, who thirty years ago erected from the foundations the holy church of the "Nativity of Christ," furnished and decorated to perfection at his own expense. Apart from this beautiful church, the late Nikolaos Garofallidis erected in Myrina the first indoor cinema on Lemnos, which he donated to the Hospital of Lemnos.

Following him come: Nikolaos Milaras, Petros Arvanitakis, Georgios Vamvakeros, Chrysanthi

Nomismatidou, Panagiotis Vorgiamos, Pavlos Ntolias, Andreas Kaponis, Triandafyllos Tzaros, Pavlos Tsankalias, Christos Kalatzis, Theodoros Charamis, Christina Garofallou, Theodosios Skapetis, Sotirios Nianiouras, Charalampos Kasoumis, Apostolos Arvanitakis, Eleftheria and Fani Karagianni, Charalampos Diamantidis, Eleni Pantazis, Tryfon Vranas, Panagiotis Moumtzis, Panagiotis Mbaspaleris, Ioannis Louskos, Vassiliki Vergis, Ioannis and Malamma Vlangou, Anastasios Peteinaras, Komninos Kafes, Eftychia Lousidou, Georgios Tselikas, Angelos and Maria Karagianni, Elisavet Piatou, Eleni Giannakis, Andreas Zografos, Apostolos Moutzouris, Georgios and Eftychia Lousidou, Vasilios Souitsmezis, Garofallos Tsarsis, the Brothers of Konstantinos Mpouroudis, Theodoros Papatheodorou, Marigo Kasoumidou, Dimitrios Vergis, the Brothers of Christos Giannakis, Nikolaos Glefaros, Christos Arvanitakis, Stylianos P. Moutzouris, Vasilios P. Lantouris, Dimitrios Neres, Dimitrios Katrakazos, Vas. Kaidos, and the Brothers of Stergiou.

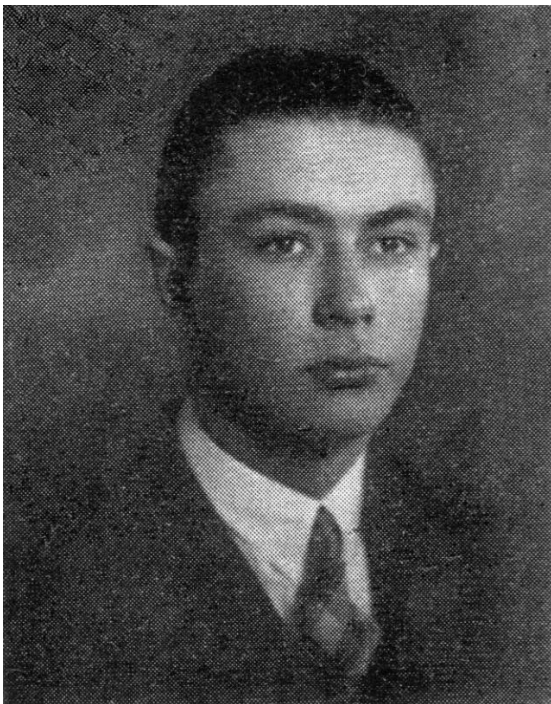
The greatest benefactor of Kontias before the liberation of Lemnos is the late Nikitas Gerontoudis of Christoforos. When he came from Abyssinia to Lemnos in the year 1893 and saw that his village was "withering away" — on the one hand being suffocatingly hemmed in by the four known hills of Vigla, Agios Athanasios, Koukos, and Typos, which belonged to the Turkish State and which strictly forbade grazing even of domestic animals, so that the Community of Kontias was compelled to pay an exorbitant annual rent; and on the other hand because the Metochion of "Christos" of the Holy Lavra of Mount Athos, with an area of approximately 370 stremmata, blocked and continues — unfortunately even today — to block the expansion of the village towards the bay of the same name — he decided to save it once and for all. Indeed, with great effort and persistence he succeeded, through his uncle Nikolaos Aivaleris, resident in Myrina and then vice-president of the Demogerontia, in securing the cession of the four hills to the Community of Kontias for the considerable sum of 10,000 gold Turkish liras, which he himself paid in full.

In this way the village of Kontias was truly saved. Returning to Eritrea with ten of his fellow villagers whom he had taken on as his employees, he expanded his business. But although the caravans arrived one after another, bringing various goods for the Italian army, they could not meet the demand; he therefore departed again for Europe, where he contracted with the largest commercial houses of the time, many of which gave him their agency for all of East Africa and Arabia, and returned on board a cargo vessel laden with his merchandise, which was unloaded at Massawa to be transported by caravan to the plateau of Asmara at an altitude of 2,365 metres.

In January 1897 he travels once more to Lemnos, where he celebrates his wedding with Chrysanthi, granddaughter of the ship-captain Konstantinos Makras, and returns to Eritrea accompanied by ten more Lemnians taken on in his service. Among them were the builders Charalampos Acheilias and the brothers Kalokairinou. Upon arriving in Asmara, at the direction of the late Nikitas Gerontoudis, they immediately erected the first stone-built European-type residence with spacious storehouses, office, and shop. On the day of the inauguration, in February or March of 1898, the late General Antonio Baldissera proclaimed Nikitas Gerontoudis the founder of Asmara

— the later capital of all Eritrea, with many industries, an admirable street layout, and a population of up to 160,000 inhabitants.

In the year 1919 he departs for Lemnos, where he remains for one year, in order rightfully to rest after so many years of intense struggle for life, but also because he calculated that within one year he would succeed in expropriating the Metochion "Christos" of the Holy Lavra of Mount Athos for the benefit of the entire population of the village of Kontias — a struggle he commenced as soon as he arrived on Lemnos. His actions were so well-aimed and his resolve so great that in July 1920, a Hegumen from Mount Athos arrived in Kontias with his retinue, along with the Metropolitan of Lemnos Stefanos, the Eparch of Lemnos, the Commander of the Gendarmerie of Lemnos, and the Justice of the Peace — all having come to intimidate and discourage him — and summoned him to the hall of the old school of Kontias, most unexpectedly on a Sunday morning at 8 o'clock, just as he was taking his breakfast. But having gone there, he did not honour them with his presence for even five minutes, because the Eparch of Lemnos, who took the floor — to whom the hieromonks of the Holy Lavra had brought rich and many gifts — addressing himself to the farming inhabitants of Kontias crowding the hall, began most ineptly saying: "Some adventurer from Abyssinia came to



The Secretary of the Lemnos Hospital, Nikolaos Gerontoudis son of the late Nikitas Gerontoudis



In Abyssinia, the late Nikitas Gerontoudis in 1936, at the age of 76

disturb your peaceful village and make you believe that you can divide up the Metochion," whereupon the late Nikitas Gerontoudis rose calmly and said: "This adventurer came from Abyssinia to do a great good to his village, not to be insulted by small people, very small, as you all are. So small, that for this burning issue of my village I applied not to any of you, but to the competent Ministries and to the Prime Minister of Greece himself. Here is my petition to him. By what right do you intervene? By what right did you summon me as if to trial and insult me in this manner? Is it conceivable

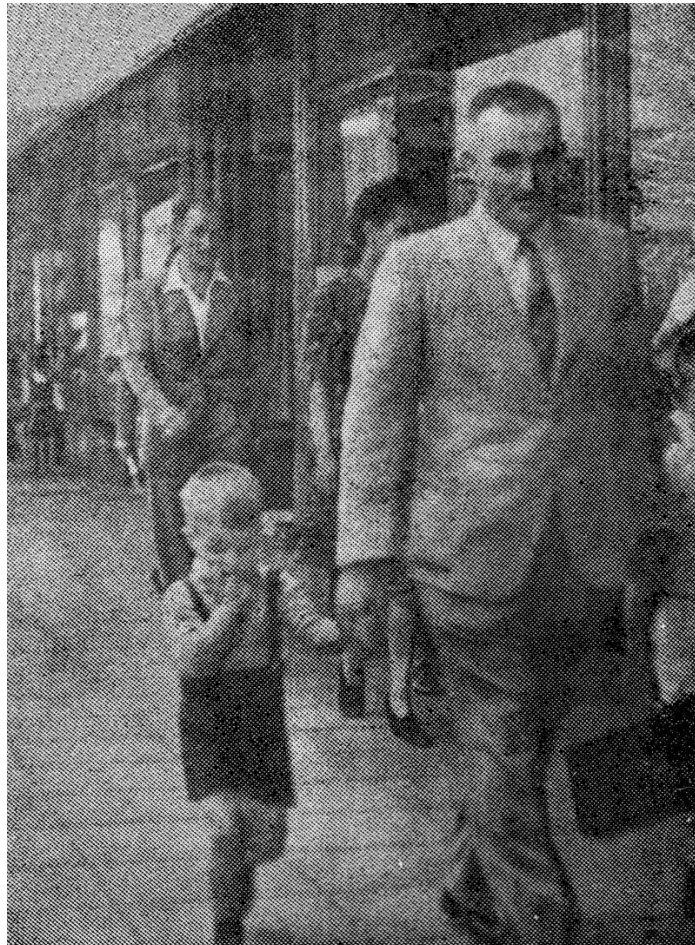
that you do not know that the matter of the expropriation of the Metochion is one that does not concern you? Gentlemen adventurers, your adventurism has not prevailed. You, Hieromonks, representatives of the Holy Lavra — if you are men of God, do this great good for the largest village on the island. See how it suffers." He then withdrew with a firm, slow step, and said to the farmers who had glorified him: "Let us go, fellow villagers, and dance." "No, first we shall sort out all those people." "It's not worth the trouble, let's go," he said, and he asked a very dear friend of his, the late priest Kon. Paparetos, to tell the Metropolitan and the other dignitaries on their way out not to pass through the square, lest something unpleasant occur. A month later, the Eparch, the Commander of the Gendarmerie, and the Justice of the Peace were all transferred on the same day. This Nikitas Gerontoudis achieved through the late attorney Georgios Kaldis, who persistently travelled to Athens.

In September 1920, accompanied by the late Georgios Kaldis and the late Christos Kalatzis, a wholesale merchant resident in Braila, Romania, he departed on board the steamship "Magda," which also called at the most Greek city of Smyrna. In Athens, having for two months moved Heaven and Earth with the constant assistance of the late attorney Georgios Kaldis for the expropriation of the Metochion to the Community of Kontias — and having been fully persuaded that the matter was proceeding most satisfactorily — he returned to Eritrea, where he founded the first tobacco factory. In the year 1933, in anticipation of the Italo-Abyssinian War, he ordered from Germany two more cigarette-making machines and prepared feverishly, stockpiling in his enormous warehouses, vast quantities of goods, which were exhausted within three years before the declaration of war. After the capitulation of Abyssinia in 1936, quite suddenly, he took the decision to abandon Eritrea.

All these labours, toils, and sacrifices for the expropriation of the Metochion "Christos" resulted in the expropriation of all the Metochia of the islands of Lemnos and Thasos, but not for the benefit of the entire population of the villages situated near the Metochia. They were expropriated in favour of the landless cultivators of the two islands — and for this reason the village of Kontias continues to decline day by day. For this reason, too the emigration of Kontiatini to all corners of the earth is incomparably greater. More than three-quarters of the houses are closed, to the greatest detriment of agriculture and livestock-farming. It is disheartening that for so many years no government — moved even by humanitarian sentiment alone — has taken up this burning issue, which is of vital importance to all the present-day progressive, hospitable, and noble Kontiatini, and indeed to the Kontiatini of the future as well. It is just that, following a town planning study — that is, the marking out of roads and squares — the land should be distributed to the families of the village, so that each may receive a plot. The urban plan in question for this port-town should also include the farm "Moniti," the Refugee Settlement, and the remaining area towards the bay of Kontias as far as Agios Ioannis and Diapori, so that the various small property owners do not build outside the plan.

After the late Nikitas Gerontoudis — who before his death donated 100,000 drachmas to the Hospital of Lemnos — the following are commemorated as benefactors and donors of Kontias: the ship-captain Alkiviadis Theodoros, who donated his farm "Kassapetra"; the late Christos Kalatzis, who donated the sum of 1,000 gold French francs; Apostolos Moutzouris,

at whose expense the new Community Office of Kontias was erected from the foundations; Charalampos Diamantidis, at whose expense the aqueduct of Tsikoula was constructed; the Association of Kontiatinon of Melbourne, for their donation of 144 English pounds; Eleni Salakianou, who donated her house at the location "Acheilias Pigadi"; Pavlos Vorgiamos, resident in Abyssinia, for his donation of 200 gold 20 drachmas coins; Pavlos Tsankalias, resident in Alexandria, Egypt, for his donation of 200 gold twenty-franc pieces; Andreas Kaponis; Pavlos Ntolias; Dimitrios Vergis, resident in Rhodesia and Consul of Greece; Nikolaos Milaras, resident in Egypt, at whose expense the square of the village of Rimni was paved; Komninos Kafes, resident in America; and those likewise resident in America: Stylianos Garoufalis, Panagiotis Garoufalis, Konstantinos Kaldemires, Dimitrios Karagiannis, Alexandros Kantarias, Ioannis Kounelis of Athanasios, and Charalampos Parathyras



Mr. Nikolaos Yiannakis in Limbe with his two young sons Komninos and Emmanouel.

Besides the aforementioned benefactors and donors, the village of Kontias also prides itself on its sons residing in America and enrolled as members of the Association of Kontiatinon "Agios Dimitrios." This Association has for twenty-five years and more benefited and assisted most effectively of all. The total sum with which it has come to the aid of the village of Kontias up to today has greatly exceeded one million drachmas. In narrating the affairs of Kontias — the most progressive and largest village of Lemnos — we are obliged to note also that Kontias reached the zenith of its prosperity when Mr. Konstantinos Katrakazos was President of the Community and Mr. Efstratios Karafilis was its secretary, and that

from the time of their resignation the decline of the village began, to which emigration delivered the final blow. Those who contributed to the general progress and development of the village of Kontias after the liberation of Lemnos are: the late teacher Konstantinos Makras, who died at the age of 90; the late Papa Konstantinos Aretos, who introduced cotton cultivation first in Kontias and subsequently throughout the entire island, which today is also known as a seed-production centre, as the quality of Lemnian cotton is excellent; the secretary of the Community Efstratios Karafilis, who tirelessly rendered inestimable services to the village for twenty-five years, and notably during the German Occupation; the late Sotirios Sotiriou, who armed confronted the Germans at the location of Therma, together with the other gendarmes of the Giannopoulos Detachment; the industrialist Apostolos Stefanou, son of the virtuous and great notable of Kontias during the Turkish era, Andreas Stefanou; the wholesale merchant and agent of the National Bank Vasilios Chatzinikolaou; the most gentlemanly humanitarian Mr. Andreas Tselikas; the flour industrialists Vasilios Tsankalias and Athanasios Despotis; the late Stylianos Garoufalis; the late Gaitanos Kaponis; the great landowner and merchant Kimon Keramidas, who was imprisoned by the Germans and suffered greatly; the former President of the Community Eleftherios Skapetis; the current President of the Agricultural Cooperative Konstantinos Skordis; the landowner and merchant Vasilios Zafeiriou; the brothers Charalampos and Christos Katis; the current President of the Community Georgios Kaponis, known for his dynamism; and the brothers Giannakis who effectively benefited their fellow villagers and the refugees of the refugee settlement of Kontias — and in particular Nikolaos Giannakis, who brings honour to both Lemnos and Greece in Limbe of Nyasaland — and others.

**THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF KONTIANS IN AMERICA
("Agios Dimitrios") IN THE YEAR 1950 WERE THE FOLLOWING:**

The members of the Association of Kontiatinon of America "Agios Dimitrios" in the year 1950 were: Athanasios Ntolias, Athanasios Markos, Andreas Theodorou Mitsilia, Vasilios Souitsmezis, Vlasis Knikos, Garyfalos Tsarsis, Garyfalos Ktapodelis, Georgios Garoufalis, Georgios Kontogiorgis, Georgios Houlis, Grigorios Dimataris, Dimitrios Zervos, Dimitrios Kalatzis, Dimitrios Katrakazos, Dimitrios Moutzouris, Dimosthenis Karagiannis, Epaminondas Hrabpanis, Theodoros Papatheodorou, Theodoros Haramis, Ioannis Kitsos, Ioannis Ath. Kounelias, Ioannis F. Kounelias, Ioannis Laspatzis, Ioannis Louskos, Komninos Kafes, Konstantinos Vlangos, Nikolaos Goudis, Nikolaos Mitsilia, Nikolaos Parathyras, Nikolaos Tzaros, Panagiotis Goudis, Panagiotis Katrakazos, Panagiotis Ntolias, Panagiotis Tsarsis, Pantelis Avaras, Pantelis Zervos, Pantelis Kalogiannis, Pavlos Kounelias, Petros Gerakas, Rigas Vogiatzis, Sarantis Dikranis, Stathis Fragkoulis, Stavros Karastavrakis, Stavros Leventakis, Stelios Lambros, Sotirios Paitakis, Fotios Dikranis, Charalampos Parathyras, Charalampos Tzaros, Charalampos Trochal, Charalampos Halamandaris, Christos Louzidis.

Ladies

Ladies: Angeliki Tsarna, Angeliki Fragkouli, Athina Kontou, Athina Paitaki, Athina Mbahkiavani, Aikaterini Goudis, Aikaterini Zagoudi, Aikaterini Louskos, Aikaterini Houlis, Androniki Vafea,

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF KONTIATITON
OF LEMNOS "ST. DEMETRIOS" IN AMERICA**



Seated from left to right: Olga Argyriou, Despina Kounelis, Aikaterini Goudis, Athena Paitakis, Vasiliki Knikos, Kyriakoula Spilios.

Standing from left to right: Dimitrios Kalatzis, Vasileios Vafeas, Komninos Kafes — Secretary, Vasileios Mitsilias, and Fotios Dikranis.

Androniki Zervou, Anna Tarkoski, Vasiliki Knikou, Vasiliki Moustaka, Viktoria Maroudis, Viktoria Mperberi, Georgia Pertsas, Despoina Dimatari, Despoina Kaneli, Despoina Kalogianni, Despoina I. Kounelis, Despoina Morris, Eleni Vlangou, Eleni Dikrani, Eleni Kafes, Eleni Ntolia, Eleni Hitsos, Elisavet Zervou, Elisavet Kontogiorgis, Elisavet Fioratou, Evangelia Dova, Efstratia Kortma, Eftychia Loussidi, Theodora Moutzouris, Aikaterini I. Kounelis, Kleoniki Parathyra, Kyriakoula Spiliou, Malama Kamami, Malama Karastavrakis, Malama Tzarou, Mariathi Kounelis, Marika V. Mitsilia, Maria Tzimourtzina, Olga Argiriou, Olga Kriari, Sinio Tsarsis, Tessi Leventaki, Fani Karagianni, Foteini Kitsos, Foteini Theodorou, Foteini Haramis, Harikleia Raftopoulou, Hrysoula Laspatzis.

The Primary School of the village of Sardes was erected in the year 1912 by the late Pantelis Familiadis, resident in Egypt, to whom it was bequeathed a considerable monetary sum, from the interest of which the teacher of the time would be remunerated and two young women would receive a dowry each year. Antonios Manolieris, resident in Egypt, bequeathed to the Community of Sardes 5,000 gold Egyptian pounds, from the interest of which two young women would receive a dowry each year. Themistoklis Kokotos, resident in America, donated 300 dollars to the church. Marika Spirogianni, resident in America, donated 2,500 drachmas for the water supply; 8,000 for the completion of the Community Office; 11,000 for the Church; and to the Community in the year 1958, a two-storey house and a field. Athanasios Valantis, resident in America, donated 800 dollars for the enclosure of the cemetery with a wall. Aristeia Gaitanou donated to the Community a house valued at 40,000 drachmas and a field. Georgios Papangelis, resident in America, having organised a fundraiser among the compatriots there, collected the sum of 1,107 dollars and succeeded in having an anonymous Lemnian donate the sum of 1,500 dollars, with which a field was purchased and, after conversion, is today used as a football ground. Besides the football ground, these two sums served for the construction of a Community Office with a guesthouse and a rural social club. Finally, Garofalos Vakirtzakis donated a field, and Nikolaos Drakos the required sum for the renovation of the Church.

The Primary School of the village of Platys was erected at his own expense by the late Anastasios Tsilikis, resident of Egypt, in the year 1888.

The pre-eminent benefactor of the village of Platys is the Association of Platynon of America, which in diverse ways has assisted its small village for approximately thirty years. At the expense of this Association, Platys was the first of all the villages of Lemnos to receive electric lighting; the church of Agios Georgios and the Primary School were renovated; and the aqueduct of the Community was enriched through a piped conduit with an abundant water supply. The interest too shown by the permanent residents of the village in the progress of their village is exemplary. This was demonstrated by the overall activity of Mr. Evangelos Vertsonis, who governed Lemnos for years in successive periods, having distinguished himself as an officer of the Greek Army during the Greco-Italian War of 1940–1941 and later in the war against the traitorous communists of 1944–1949. It was demonstrated by the entire national activity of Ioannis Varvaris, a veteran of the First World War — later when the bloodthirsty executioners of December seized the authorities of Lemnos — and finally when, as President,

of the Community of Platys presented his village in its entirety as nationally-minded, so that it might be registered en masse first in the NATIONAL ORGANISATION OF LEMNOS, immediately after the liberation of the Island from the Germans. This was demonstrated by the patriotism and activity of the former President of the Community, Mr. Pantelis Giannopoulos. It was demonstrated by the overall activity of Mr. Efstratios Zografos, who for a series of years served as President of the Community of Platys and President of the Association of Disabled Veterans of Lemnos. It was demonstrated by the overall activity of Christos Antoniadis, Secretary of the Community for thirty years, and also by many other patriotic manifestations, such as the following by Nikolaos Tsaptsinos, settled in America:

*My beautiful village, Platys, you who are surrounded
by your white little houses, sparsely built,
when the Sun rises it first illuminates you
with its golden rays it first adorns you.
You resemble a lily, pure white, and bring back memories,
your sea, your plain bring me emotion.
Your beautiful church, built of marble,
stands painted within my very soul.
I do not forget that when I was small and went to school
I read the primer sitting at the desk.
I forget nothing of yours — your graces, your life —
and though I am far from you, my mind is with you.
And even though I left as a child and came here among strangers,
I left my heart, my village, with you.
And all the world I have faced, wherever I have travelled,
I never forget you, my beloved village.
And I hope someday to come back and return,
with tears and reverence to kiss your soil.
I have hopes in God, that fate will bring me
to the sacred earth, to my childhood hands.
But if the foreign earth here swallows my body,
I shall be refreshed, my village, if they sprinkle a little of your soil upon me.*

Members of the Association of Platys residents in America in 1950 were: the couple of Nikolaos Tsaptsinos, the couple of Dionysios Skopelitis, the couple of Charillaos Skopelitis, the couple of Pavlos Katsamakis, the couple of Klonaris Rigopoulos, the couple

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PAN-LEMNIAN BROTHERHOOD



Seated from left: Mrs. D. Skopelitou, Dionysios Skopelitis President, Christos Palaiologos and M. Karasavva President of the Lodge of Maroula. — Standing from left: K. Chatzoglou, General Secretary; P. Kalathis, Komninos Kafes, K. Kotsinadelis, E. Spiridelis, Ch. Nestotas, T. Vrikos, A. Diamantis, E. Rigopoulos and Tasos Charamis.

of Pantelis Laskaris, the couple of Panagiotis Moustakas, the couple of Ioannis Evgeniadou, Aristeia Dimitropoulou, the couple of Vasileios Katakouzinou, the couple of Andreas Parisis, the couple of Georgios Angelou, Meropi Panagiotou, the couple of Vasileios Chacholou, the couple of Charalambos Kappas, the couple of Theodoros Chalamandaris, the couple of Nikolaos Kokkinellias, the couple of Fotios Arvanitakis, the couple of Ioannis Sideris, the couple of Sotirios Paitakis, the couple of Dimitrios Parisis, the couple of Menelaos Antoniadou, the couple of Ioannis Kokkinos, Theodoros Tzanis, Konstantinos Zafiropoulos, the couple of Vasileios Kondouris, the couple of Pavlos Ntalis, the couple of Ioannis Kokkinellias, the couple of Ioannis Tsaptsinos, the couple of Nikolaos Kokkinellias, the couple of Evangelos Kleidas, the couple of Markos Diamantidis, Georgios Diamantidis, Charalambos Charitos, Charalambos Vertsonis, the couple of Antonios Katakouzinou, the couple of Angelo's Angelou, the couple of Vasileios Amorgianou, the couple of Ioannis Skopelitou, the couple of Michail Zafiropoulos, the couple of Alekos Kantartzis, the couple of Alekos Theodossiou, the couple of Efstratios Kavvadas, the couple of Paschal Kavvadas, Mrs. Kalliopi Kapetanakis, the couple of Charalambos Giannopoulos, the couple of Emmanouel Papados and Tryfon Giannopoulos.

The school of Livadochori was founded in the year 1880, a few years after the erection of the Church, on the initiative of the Community Elders and from contributions of all the inhabitants without distinction. The known benefactors and donors of the Community are those settled in America: Vasileios Andronallos, who contributed the sum of 610 dollars for the construction of the aqueduct and the repair of the village church. Konstantinos Andromallos the sum of 100 dollars, Euripidis Andromallos the sum of 50 dollars, Konstantinos Lyroudou the sum of 150 dollars, Antonios Monos the sum of 467 dollars, Argyrios Mpananas the sum of 150 dollars, Leonidas Martinikos the sum of 100 dollars, Konstantinos Petinos the sum of 300 dollars, Nikolaos Stroumtsos the sum of 150 dollars, Charalambos Tsikouris the sum of 150 dollars, Ioannis Chitsos the sum of 50 dollars, Theodoros Chalamandaris the sum of 50 dollars, Nikolaos Petinos the sum of 75 dollars, Thomas Paneras the sum of 75 dollars, Nikolaos Mpaboras the sum of 50 dollars and Vasileios Charamis the sum of 290 dollars. Among the above benefactors and donors are also included Ioannis Vafeas, Anthoula Damatari and Fotios Tsantis.

The school of the village of Plaka was founded in the year 1870. Before its foundation, the Greek children of Plaka were taught the Greek language in the cells of the old small church of Saint Demetrios. In the village of Plaka, as we were informed by the elderly residents and by Mr. Nikolaos Kontaridis, who for a series of years served as President of the Community, no Turks ever lived. In the district of the Community, four large landowning Turks had farm estates, who did not reside in the village of Plaka but in the capital of Lemnos, Myrina. These were Ali Bey, Rizas Effendi and the secretary of the Turkish governor of Lemnos Yusuf. No one remembers the name of the fourth Turk, while by general agreement the locality FOKIALI belonged to him, as one descended from Phocaea in Asia Minor, an ancient colony of the Greek Phocaeans, founded around the middle of the eighth century BC and situated north-west of Smyrna. Some people of the district maintain that the village of Plaka up to the 15th century AD bore the name "Sympheroupolis" and that at the locality where the small chapel of "Saint Charalambos" now stands,

a Monastery flourished within the area of which there existed the holy spring, still existing and known throughout all of Lemnos.

The school of the village of Fysini was erected in the year 1909 by the late Emmanouel Kokkinaras, settled in Egypt.

At this point, for the sake of history, we must mention certain things, lest an unforgivable omission be charged to us, regarding the commendable activity displayed on the part of the Lemnians settled in Egypt, where, having taken refuge in the year 1770, they rapidly advanced to economic prosperity and organised themselves into Communities, and in Alexandria also into a Brotherhood of Lemnians. We have already mentioned most of the benefactors and donors who during the period of Turkish rule demonstrated in practical, effective and manifold ways their love for their particular homeland. Now we shall deal briefly also with their contribution to various public benefit works carried out after the liberation, and we shall mention the great benefactors not yet mentioned: Georgios Sarris and Georgios Straftis, who actively contributed in the year 1926 to the erection of the High School (Gymnasion) of Lemnos on the coastal area "Romeikos Gialos".



Mrs. Olga Strafti



Mrs. Froso Paleologou

When most of the Lemnians departed with their families in the year 1770, abandoning their Island so as not to be slaughtered by the soldiers of Hassan Hadji Tzezaerli, the wealthier among them took refuge and settled in Egypt, the "Promised Land" of that time. There they rapidly made careers, distinguished themselves and amassed wealth, acquiring considerable fortunes. The greatest and most famous of all was the late Sir John Antoniadis, in whose palace were hosted not only lords, prime ministers, ministers, ambassadors, consuls, generals and admirals, but also kings. This palace with its vast and admirable garden he bequeathed to the Egyptian Government before his death. Its equal at that time, for the glory and honour of his fellow Lemnians, did not exist in the whole of Egypt.

Another who greatly honoured his native Lemnos was the late Seremetis, who bequeathed to the Greek Community of the beautiful city of Mansura the SEREMETIOS SCHOOL with a large courtyard, attended by Greek children of Mansura and from all the cities of Egypt, both day pupils and boarders.

THE LEMNIAN BROTHERHOOD OF ALEXANDRIA was founded in the year 1887, and in June 1892 the members of its Board of Directors, composed of El. Pantelidis as vice-president, and the councillors S. Garofallos, K. Karageorgis, A. Poriadis, and P. Polytaridis, convened and proceeded to the election of the following local representatives of the Brotherhood, chosen from the most active of its registered members, for the following villages and towns of Egypt and East Africa: For Damanhour that of A. Panagiotakis, for Tanta that of Ioannis Pantazoglou, for Michala Kebir those of G. Sarantis, P. Paspalleris, G. Vagianou, the brothers Chrysafis and K. Polytaridis, for Kafr el-Zayat those of G. Kisemlis and V. Lagos, for Cairo that of Georgios Mavrellis and An. Dimitriou, for Port Said those of K. Garofallos, Ch. Zafiris and I. Perdikakis, for Samanout those of Ch. Kassoumidis and T. Vranas, for Santa



The unforgettable Olga Sachtouri

those of I. Tsakiris, Th. Karanikolas, P. Sidirellis, K. Kafetzidis and G. Tringopoulou, for Fayyum those of M. Mavroudis and K. Klonaris, for Minia those of An. Nitis and D. Xenou, for Kousia that of Th. Ioannou, for Sibin those of G. Sidirellis, G. Politis and I. Poriadis, for Ismailia those of G. Kidas and N. Kidas, for Mansura that of N. Kalafatis, for Suez those of Triantafyllos Straftis and G. Sarris, for Birket el-Sap those of N. Dimopoulos, N. Karamessinis and Karamalis, for Zifta that of K. Chorafas, for Michala Abu Ali those of I. Matagos, Efstratiou Kalogeras and N. Tripos, for Zagazig that of N. P. Palaiologos, for Menuf those of D. Moraitopoulos, N. Stylianopoulos, D. Moschoudis, Ant. Pantelidis and the Psarof brothers, for Massawa those of K. Evangelidis and D. Charatzidis, and Beni Suef those of Pantelidis and D. Michail, for Touch Apostolos Apostoleris, for Benha those of M. Kapsimalis and Ch. Drakos, for Abu Shuqqa those of D. Giannakoulis and V. Kakalis, for Suakim that of S. Pantelidis and for Sudan those of the Leonti brothers.

In the year 1950 a Women's Section was also founded for the Lemnian Brotherhood of Alexandria. The ladies and young women who took the lead in founding it were: Mrs. Frosso Palaiologou, Mrs. Olga Strafti, Mrs. P. Koutssoumi, Mrs. M. Dimopoulou, Mrs. Elli Palaiologou, Mrs. V. Mou-

[roudis], Mrs. Chr. Dimopoulou, Mrs. Pastroudis, Mrs. A. Giannakis, and the young women Foteinoula Sidirellis, T. Garofallos, Olga Kisemlis, Eleni Sarris, M. Karallis, N. Stavrou and K. Lalaitis.

Both the Lemnian Brotherhood as a whole and the Women's and Young Women's Section worked so effectively that at the General Assembly of the Brotherhood's members held in April 1949, the Greek Consul General Zamarias, the Vice-President of the Greek Community of Alexandria Kleomenis Nikolaou and the representative of the Patriarch, Metropolitan of Mareotida Athanasios, who honoured the Lemnian Community with their presence, enthusiastically congratulated the then-President of the Brotherhood Pastroudis and its ever-pioneering Executive Staff. The speech of the Vice-President of the Community, Kleomenis Nikolaou, was as follows:

"Reading the report of the Lemnian Brotherhood of Alexandria I was enthusiastic but not surprised. I was enthusiastic because I saw for the first time a brotherhood charting such a progressive path. But I was not surprised by this innovation, because I know from experience how progressive a people the Lemnians are. And this conviction of mine is reinforced by the Report of the Lemnian Brotherhood. It does not confine itself only to philanthropy. It proceeds to the great matter of scholarships and establishes its own section, already sending the first Lemnians to the Universities. It then proceeds to the matter of cooperation with other Associations, and it is the first to support the idea of the 'Greek House', while at the same time caring and working for the erection of its own building. And the Brotherhood of the Lemnians proceeds even further: it seeks that some solution be given to the problem of unemployment among young Lemnians through the establishment of an Employment Office. And progress does not stop here: it also publishes its own Bulletin. Within it, the problems of the Lemnians of Egypt are examined, and local issues are also studied, so that the Bulletin constitutes a fine contribution to the general effort of the Brotherhood. The Lemnian Brotherhood constitutes a precious factor for the Community and in particular for the larger organization. This great Organisation finds in the Lemnian Brotherhood a precious collaborator, and as representative of the Community at this moment, I convey its congratulations and wish you to continue your most splendid work."

To the Brotherhood of Lemnians in Alexandria, the Greek Consul General Ch. Zamarias also addressed the following congratulatory letter:

Alexandria, 1 April 1949, Dear President,

I received with pleasure and read carefully Issue No. 2 of the internal Bulletin of the Brotherhood under your leadership. I confess that rarely was I given the opportunity to admire such a carefully produced publication, with such interest, brilliantly reflecting the remarkable activity of a community such as that of the Lemnians settled in Alexandria. The very pleasant impression which the said issue made upon me was heightened even further by the fact that it, having been published during the week of the celebration of the National Anniversary, also appeared festive, with the national spirit permeating its pages and with manifest love for the struggling Homeland, of which the Lemnians of this city never cease to think, together with the other children of the motherland in foreign lands.

I thank you, dear President, for the dispatch of this beautiful issue

and I congratulate you wholeheartedly, and through you the Board of Directors and all the members of the Brotherhood, for its most patriotic activity, of which the internal Bulletin is a reflection, and I wish that its publication and continued improvement may proceed without interruption in the future.

With exceptional esteem, The Consul General **Ch. ZAMARIAS**

Indeed, by the year 1950 the programme of the Lemnian Brotherhood of Alexandria, with so much praiseworthy activity and many labours, had been completed in both the philanthropic and the educational sector. But the great love of all the members of the Brotherhood for the homeland of the Lemnians contributed to extending their activity to other sectors as well. Thus, the Lemnian Brotherhood protested vigorously to world public opinion regarding the CHILD ABDUCTION [Paidomazoma] which offended civilised humanity, regarding the then-abolition of the Prefecture of Lemnos, and took care regarding the unemployment of the Lemnians. In that year, for assistance to the destitutes the sum of 1,200 Egyptian pounds was disbursed, and generally for philanthropy the sum of 3,200 Egyptian pounds.

The text of the telegram of the Lemnian Brotherhood concerning the abolition of the Prefecture of Lemnos to the then Prime Minister Themistoklis Sofoulis read as follows:

"Alexandria, 13 April 1949, His Excellency the Prime Minister of Greece, Mr. Them. Sofoulis — Athens. Your Excellency, the Lemnian Brotherhood of Alexandria, representing five thousand Lemnians settled throughout Egypt, strongly protests because among the 12 prefectures which the Government has retained, Lemnos is not included. This decision severely damages the interests of the Lemnian People, because Lemnos is at a greater distance from the capital of the Nome to which it is assigned by the new law than any other island of Greece. We hope and wish, Your Excellency, that the interest which you have always shown for Lemnos will manifest itself now as well with a swift revocation of the unjust decision. In this way you will satisfy the Lemnian people and the Lemnian community of Egypt, which has entrusted us to submit to You the present protest. On this matter we remain, Your Excellency, with the utmost esteem and respect. The President Athan. Pastroudis, the Gen. Secretary Ntinis Koutsoumis."

In reply to this, the Lemnian Brotherhood received the following telegram:

"We have the honour to inform you that the telegram of 13 April of this year addressed to the President was received and brought to the attention of the President. On its contents, we provide you with the following information: Following representations by representatives of the Lemnian People on the matter of the re-establishment of the Office of Prefect of Lemnos, the President of the Government expressed warm interest in favour of the re-establishment of the Prefecture of Lemnos, having made appropriate recommendations thereon to the Minister of the Interior, from whom a written assurance was received that the re-establishment of the abolished Office of the Prefect of Lemnos is under consideration. By order of the Prime Minister. The General Director of the Political Office of the Prime Minister, Georgios N. Georgiadis."

THE ASSOCIATION OF LEMNIANS SETTLED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA "HEPHAESTUS"

Concerning the Association "HEPHAESTUS" we write in Part III. Here we mention the following as well, in order to pay a small tribute of gratitude to all those who at various times served as presidents, vice-presidents, councilors and members thereof.

It was founded by the Lemnians settled in America 50 years ago and disbursed considerable sums after the war, that is from 1945 onwards, in order to effectively assist the Lemnians who in the preceding year (1944) had shaken off the German yoke. The greatest benefaction of "Hephaestus" towards its native land is the founding of the Hospital, which magnificently adorns the capital Myrina and operates with all modern scientific machinery, equipment and other supplies in all its departments: the Surgical, the Radiological, the Maternity and the Pathological, etc.

Previously, when the Island lacked a hospital and communications with the rest of Greece and the rest of the world were interrupted during winter for one, two and even three weeks at a time due to unfavourable weather conditions, the absence of this indispensable institution was felt so keenly that the inhabitants protested with indignation against the authorities. Today those in need of surgery or treatment resort to it and find in it exemplary care and attention. The staff working in it in its entirety is composed of Lemnians, both men and women.

Today, the Director of the Institution is Mr. Athanasios Velissaridis, from Tsasi, and the Head Nurse is his wife, Christina.

Head of the Secretariat Section is Mr. Nikolaos Gerontoudis from Kontias, son of the late Nikitas Gerontoudis, and Head of the Accounts Section is Mr. Konstantinos Afentoulis.

The Hospital of Lemnos began operating on the 10th of February 1940, on which date the inauguration ceremony was also held. At the ceremony all the authorities of the Island were present, representatives of the Association "HEPHAESTUS" and many of the inhabitants. The first Director of the Institution mentioned is G. Zairis, formerly a resident of Egypt.

Besides the philanthropic Association "HEPHAESTUS", which honours Lemnos in America, mentioned as great benefactors are also the LEMNIAN BROTHERHOOD OF BUILDINGS "MAROULA" of New York, the LEMNIAN BROTHERHOOD "HEPHAESTUS" of South Africa, the late Nikolaos Garofallidis from Kontias, the late Georgios Christodoulidis, Mr. Charalambos Parathyras from Kontias, and the late Anagnostis Tsikalis. As benefactors in general Mr. Apostolos Moutzouris from Kontias and Nikolaos Psaradellis, and finally as great donors the late Nikitas Gerontoudis from Kontias and Mr. Athanasios Marmaras from Repanidion.

Six years ago, in the courtyard of the Hospital, a notable pavilion was erected at the expense of the Lemnian Brotherhood of South Africa "HEPHAESTUS", which will serve for the accommodation of the Nurses working in the Institution and as a Radiological Laboratory. On the other side of the courtyard, six years ago, the chapel of the Holy Apostles was founded at the expense of Mr. Apostolos Moutzouris from Kontias,

who disbursed for this purpose the sum of 150,000 drachmas. Now in the Hospital there are three clinics: the Pathological, the Surgical and the Gynaecological—Maternity, as well as two laboratories: the Radiological under the radiologist physician Mr. Michail Melissas, who settled in Myrina with his family twenty years ago, and the Microbiological.

From the bequest of the great benefactor from Kontias, the late Nikolaos Garofallidis, a theatre-cinema hall was founded in Myrina in the year 1958, at a cost of 1,000,000 drachmas.

The administration of the Institution is entrusted to the Brotherhood of the Hospital, composed of the incumbent Metropolitan of Lemnos as President and of the directors or heads of the authorities of the Island residing in Myrina.



Farmers in costume (Kiachagiades) dancing in the courtyard by the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity (1955)

CONCERNING THE MUNICIPALITY OF MYRINA

The capital of Lemnos, Myrina, was first called KASTRON (Castle), when during the Venetian period many fortification works were carried out, the most significant of which was the Venetian fortress, still preserved in good condition. On it, among other things, marvellous wells in excellent condition and ruined military buildings survive. Myrina was called as such up to 1200–1300 AD. From 1300 to 1750 it was called Kastron, Mporio, Varousion and Chora; for this reason, in official and semi-official documents and in geographical staff maps of Greece and foreign states it is referred to as "Kastron".

At various points of the city, during the laying of foundations for new buildings, archaeological finds and coins of all eras are being uncovered: of the classical era of Athens, of Philip, of Alexander the

Great, of the Ptolemies, of the Roman Empire, the Byzantine and the Turkish. Many of these are found by the small Lemnian Greek children even on the Venetian fortress.

The once-flourishing capital of the Island, Myrina, lies buried beneath the present one. It was confined around the *Kastron* (the hill on which the Venetian fortress stands). To the north it extended as far as the ravine. To the east as far as the small bridge located before the entrance of the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity, and to the south as far as the estate of the late Panagiotis Laskaridis and that of the late Eleftherios Polytaridis, situated on the sandy beautiful beach of Tourkikos Gialos. Within this extent was included the harbour and a small portion of the enchanting beach of Romeikos Gialos, where a statue of a female bovine of finest art stood, about which, in the 6th century BC, in one of his verses, the only one preserved from one of his poems, the greatest of the tragic poets of Ancient Greece, Sophocles, says: "Athos shades the back of the Lemnian cow" [Ἄθως σκιάζει νῶτα Λημνίας βοός], wishing thus to give greater emphasis to his verses referring to this natural phenomenon, which give us the information that the shadow of Mount Athos casts itself as far as the opposite shore of Lemnos during the summer period, when the sun at the summer solstice around 21 May turns towards its greatest declination, and around 21 July of each year, returning from its greatest declination towards the equator and subsequently towards the winter solstice, sets precisely behind the peak of Athos, which lies 38 nautical miles from Lemnos. It is conjectured from this that the cow had its back turned toward Athos, looking either to the East or toward the other city of Lemnos, Hephaistia. The administrative and judicial authority in Lemnos during the last two months of the year 1912 was exercised by the Greek military authorities that liberated it, having established themselves in Myrina. The first civil authorities that replaced them after two months were the Prefecture, the Court of Justices of the Peace, the Harbour Authority, the Tax Authority, the Public Treasury and the Gendarmerie Sub-command. Seven years later the Agricultural Court, and shortly after the Agricultural Service.

In January 1913, the Prefect of Lemnos was Hippokrates Karavias, the Justice of the Peace was Ioannis Spanoudis, who in 1914 was replaced by Christos Kontou. He in 1915 by Petros Kairis, and the latter in 1917 by the lawyer Mr. Emm. Konstantinidis, who at the end of that same year 1917 was called to the ranks of the Army, serving until 1922 as a Military Judicial Counsellor of the 3rd class. After his departure from the Army, he remained in Lemnos, where he practiced law and took over the continuation of the newspaper "Lemnos", the publication of which had been interrupted since 1915, which continuing until 1966 served, by common agreement, the general interests of the Island and contributed enormously to the settlement and resolution of many vital issues of the Island. From 1913 Lemnos was deprived of the First Instance Court Justice which it enjoyed under the Turkish yoke, despite the repeated protests of the inhabitants and the efforts of deputies and ministers. The demand of the Lemnians that the State should legislate for the Establishment of a Court of First Instance in Lemnos moved no government, even though it is known to all that in order for a Lemnian to seek First Instance Court Justice, he is obliged to travel 92 nautical miles, to abandon his family and his work for eight days and to incur considerable expenses for his voyage from Lemnos to Mytilene.

If, as we were informed, the present National Revolutionary Government of ours has taken up this vital issue, we are a priori certain that it will be definitively resolved, inasmuch as we do not exclude the possibility of finding even an intermediate solution.

The separation of the Port Committee of Lemnos was abolished under the Governor Kozyris in the year 1927, on the initiative and insistence of the lawyer Mr. Emm. Konstantinidis, and by Royal Decree the Port Funds of Kastron and Moudros were merged, forming the Port Fund of Lemnos.

The first Port Committee of the Port Fund of Lemnos was formed in the year 1932, consisting of Christos Kalapatseas Justice of the Peace, Nikolaos Trataros as presiding member, Adamantios Roussopoulos,



The current ninety-year-old first Mayor of Myrina, Mr. Panagiotis Papadopoulos

director of the National Bank, Eleftherios Polytaridis, Velissarios Velissaridis, Michail Sougioultzis, Angelos Dimadis and Ioannis Fergadiotis, father of the long-serving Mayor of Myrina Mr. Alekos Fergadiotis.

On 1 August 1946 Mr. Andreas Nikolaidis was appointed Secretary of the Port Fund of Lemnos, a position he holds to this day in an exemplary manner — an employee outstanding in every respect, courteous, willing and helpful as no other.

On the day of the liberation of Lemnos, the Mayor of the Capital Myrina was Anagnostis Garofallou, and the Councillors of the first Municipal Council after the liberation were: Serif Agas Turk, Evangelos Komninos Physician, Alexandros Oriaimas, Nikolaos Drakos, Ioannis Pertsas, Fotios Parisidis, Alexandros Dardanopoulos and Nikolaos Triantafyllidis.

In the year 1914, with the application of Law D.N.Z. on Municipalities and Communities, Municipalities were retained only for the capitals of Prefectures and for towns above 10,000 inhabitants. In this way the Municipalities of Myrina, Kontias, Moudros, Atsikis and Kornos were

downgraded to Communities; the first President of the Community of Kastron was the late Ioannis Fergadiotis and the Councillors: Nikolaos Drakos, F. Parisidis, Ioannis Pertsas, Nikolaos Triantafyllidis, Angelos Dimadis, Eleftherios Deligiannis, Nikolaos Polytaridis, Argyrios Argyriou, Panagiotis Paspaleris, P. A. Mpaganis and Angelos Konstantinidis.

In the year 1933 Mr. Theodoros Gnardellis, a native of the village of Thanos, was appointed Secretary of the Community of Kastron, having worked with zeal and conscientiousness for 35 consecutive years, contributing enormously to the advancement in every respect of the Capital, which in the year 1947 was elevated to a Municipality with its first Mayor being Mr. Panagiotis Papadopoulos, a Lemnian of the finest.



The first and second grades of the High School (Gymnasium) of Lemnos for the year 1954. — In the middle of them, marked with a cross, the Headmaster of the High School of Lemnos, professor and author Mr. Dimitrios Mantzouranis.

The Greek children of the Capital up to the year 1926 attended the 8-grade Primary School or Hemi-Gymnasium, as it was called by some, which was housed in the Civic School founded by the late Nikolaos Hatzintallis.

The now-operating full High School was founded in the year 1926, at the expense of the Ministry of Finance and with the contribution of the late G. Sarris and Triantafylos Straftis.

The most active of the Headmasters of the High School of Lemnos from the liberation until today proved to be Mr. Dimitrios Mantzouranis, a distinguished man of letters and author, having worked tirelessly for three years for the formation and education of the High School pupils and also for the beautification and enrichment of the High School of Lemnos with various instruments.

On the initiative of the Headmaster Mr. Dim. Mantzouranis, in the year 1952 the football ground was enclosed with a high wall, in which the gymnastic displays of the pupils of the High School and of the pupils of the Primary Schools of the Capital, Tsasi and Andronion also take place; the semi-basement of the High School was converted into a library and a workshop hall, and as if by magic the entire courtyard was beautified, which within that same year took on the appearance of a model, most beautiful flower garden.



Female pupils of the High School of Lemnos marching before the official authorities of Lemnos on 28 October 1961, led by the current Physical Education teacher Evangelia Gerontoudis.



The honour graduate of the High School of Lemnos, Christoforos Gerontoudis, delivering a patriotic speech in 1956 in favour of the union of Cyprus with the Mother Greece.

Under the government of Konstantinos Tsaldaris and in the year 1946, Myrina also acquired a Centre of Social Welfare. This Service was organised by Mr. Stylianos Tsoukalos, a respected merchant economically ruined during the German occupation, with clerical staff willing, hardworking and conscientious, but completely unspecialised, as the employees recruited were simply graduates of the High School: Messrs Georgios Mantzaris, Konstantinos Lazos, Vasileios Tatzalos, Petros Doukas and others. Nevertheless Mr. Tsoukalos, thanks to his organisational spirit, proved to be a most capable Director of the said Service, as likewise the most capable employees, worthy of their director, proved to be his subordinates, to the point of drawing the warm congratulations of the then

Minister of Social Welfare himself, the late Georgios Lazanas. Mr. Tsoukalos, when shortly thereafter he submitted his resignation and departed from the Service, was succeeded by Mr. G. Mantzaris. The self-made Mr. Georgios Mantzaris, orphaned of his father since childhood and a member of a very poor family, made his career thanks to his humility, his modesty, his character and his great diligence. We observe him for a series of years gathering from a young age pupils of the High School and Greek children of Myrina and, like another Socrates, admonishing, advising and urging them toward every noble endeavour and good deed. His young Scouts and Wolf Cubs embrace the truths which he expounds to them and with faith and self-sacrifice



Pupils, male and female of the Sixth Grade of Primary School together with their teacher Mr. Isidoros Damalas and their teacher Mrs. Vaso Aronis. In their midst the honour graduate pupil and current Physical Education teacher at the Amea School of Cairo, Evangelia Gerontoudis, wife of Georgios Souloutas.

readily fulfil their duties in all things and at all times. Today many hundreds of young people, youths and High School pupils love, respect and esteem the indefatigable leader and teacher. But we also observe Mr. Georgios Mantzaris as a reforming moral teacher of the highest standing of the society of the Capital during the theatrical performances, dinners and other gatherings organised by him, striving for his words to fall on fertile ground.

The other Services, Unions and Organisations of the Capital of Lemnos were established en masse one after the other.

After World War II, the Meteorological Station of Lemnos was founded in Myrina at State expense, on the hillock of the late Despoina Sanopoulou, donated by her to the Ministry of Aviation. It began operating in the year 1952 with Mr. Angelos Glykis as Head of the Meteorological Service.

Two years later, Lemnos, having been declared a Seed Production Centre, because the finest variety of Lemnian cotton is cultivated on it, acquired at State expense a Model Cotton Ginning Mill, which began operating in the year 1954. The annual production of seed cotton of Lemnos reached 4,000,000 kilograms, as unproductive areas of the Island were developed by upgrading them with state bulldozers, the cotton-cultivated areas were subsidised per stremma, petrol was provided transit to the farmers and finally because by the Ministry of Agriculture for damage caused by frost, cotton cultivation was subsidised with 4,000,000 drachmas.

For the first time 35 kilometres of roads were asphalted and a model Winery was founded in Myrina. The Archaeological Museum of Lemnos was inaugurated on the enchanting beach of Romeikos Gialos, and a building was erected at State expense in the port area, in which the Harbour Authority and the Customs were housed.

A branch of IKA (Social Insurance Institution) began operating in Myrina; 38 workers' dwellings were constructed in Myrina in the Karamanlis Settlement; the imposing building of OTE (Hellenic Telecommunications Organisation) was erected in Myrina and DEI (Public Power Corporation) was established in Myrina so that the entire Island could be electrified. In the villages were founded: in Moudros the Technical School, in Romanou a Carpet-weaving School, and in Nea Koutalis an Oyster Farm and Mussel Farm.

The island of Lemnos would have reached even greater prosperity had the rapid pace of its progress not been interrupted by World War II. Excavations would have taken place on a large scale at various localities of the Island, and necessarily at the site VOUKRANO, situated between the villages of Romanou and Rossopoulion, where trunks of fossilised trees are to be found. The Capital Myrina would have acquired thermal medicinal baths through the piped conveyance of the waters of the hot spring "Therma" lying 6 km away, and the draining of CHORTAROLIMNI would have been accomplished, all the more so as the Service of Lemnos of the Agricultural District of Lesvos had already submitted a relevant report to the Ministry of Finance. The report stated that it concerned approximately 4,000 stremmata of good quality land suitable for any cultivation, that the cost of the relevant drainage work, by a rough estimate, would amount to the sum of two million drachmas, and that the State was obliged to concern itself with the draining.

At the time, in our capacity as President of the Union of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos and following a decision of the General Assembly of the members, we drew up and addressed to His Excellency the then Prime Minister the following document:

Myrina of Lemnos, 19—1—1956

To His Excellency the Prime Minister of Greece, Mr. Konstantinos Karamanlis — Athens

Your Excellency,

The devotion which we cherish toward Your Excellency moved us to proceed to the drafting of the

present, in order to invoke, in the name of the totality of the Large Families of Lemnos, with the utmost respect the lofty interest of Your Excellency on the following matter:

Towards the end of the year 1954, a decision was taken by the Ministry of Agriculture for the draining of Chortarolimni, an area of approximately 3,500 stremmata, to be distributed to the landless cultivators of the four neighbouring villages.

Since such a solution was expected by no one, given that this considerable area, the property of the Greek State and not of the neighbouring Communities, should have relieved those who toil the most of the entire Island, that is the 300 families of the Large Families, we entreat Your Excellency, that, taking up our just request with affectionate concern, you order that the entire area of the Chortarolimni to be drained be granted to the Union of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos.

In the hope that Your Excellency will favourably take up the matter in question, all the more so as it is rumoured that the arrival of the Work Team and the excavators is imminent.

Most obedient: Union of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos

The President Leonidas Gerontoudis

In reply to the above report, the following notifications from copies of documents of the Political Office of the President of the Government were communicated to the Union of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos:

Athens, 31 January 1956, PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT To the Ministry of Agriculture

Political Office, No. Prot. 121806. Office of the Minister — Here

General Director No. Prot. 121806

We have the honour to forward to you herewith the letter-application of the Association of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos dated 19—1—56 concerning their agricultural resettlement, by reason of competence, and to request your action thereon.

The General Director STEFANOS SIORIS For accuracy T.S.Y.

COPY TO: Mr. President of the Union of Parents of Large Families, Kastron Lemnos

Athens, 13—2—1956

PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT

Political Office, General Director, No. Prot. 122527

To the Ministry of Agriculture, Office of the Minister, Here.

We have the honour to forward to you herewith the letter-application of the Union of Parents of Large Families dated 19—1—56 concerning the distribution of the area to be drained to the members of the Union, by reason of competence, and to request your action thereon.

The General Director STEFANOS SIORIS

COPY TO: Union of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos, Kastron — Lemnos

In reply to the 2 documents communicated to the Union of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos from the Office of the President of the Government, the Union of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos received two further notifications from copies, as follows:

KINGDOM OF GREECE Ministry of Agriculture General Directorate A.

Directorate of Settlement Office B. No. Prot. E)5479

URGENT 5)20—2—56 To the Directorate of Agriculture of Lesvos — Mytilene

We forward to you herewith and for return the application of the Union of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos No. 1/19—1—1956, communicated to us through document No. 12 1806/31—1 of the Political Office of the President of the Government, by which settlement in the land to be revealed from the draining of the Chortarolimni in question is requested, and we request that you report to us regarding the area in question and any other information relating to the request formulated in the above application.

The Director N. Katsoulis

Copy to: Union of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos, Kastron — Lemnos

Athens, 6—7—56

KINGDOM OF GREECE Ministry of Agriculture General Directorate A.

DIRECTORATE OF SETTLEMENT — Department B. Responsible Officer: An. Varvatsis

No. Prot. E.)17327

To the Directorate of Hydraulic Works, Here

SUBJECT:

We have the honour to forward to you herewith a copy of the report No. 2023/24—3—56 of the

Directorate of Agriculture of Lesvos concerning the matter of the draining of the said swampy public area in Lemnos under the name Chortarolimni, to which your preliminary study of 1954 refers, and to request that you inform us and the above Directorate of Agriculture of further actions taken thereon.

The Director N. Katsoulis

COPY TO:

1) Directorate of Agriculture of Lesvos — Mytilene

With the information that premature is the matter raised by the Union of Parents of Large Families concerning the resettlement in the said area of landless cultivators after the draining and the disposal thereof pursuant to Article 121 of the Agricultural Code, for which matter in any case the E.A. of Lesvos will in due course be competent to decide, pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Agricultural Code.

2) Union of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos.

To the report of the Union of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos and the above documents, we deem it expedient to include in the present history of Lemnos also the letter of the Deputy for Lesvos, the late Georgios Lazanas, which reads as follows:

Athens, 16—10—1961

To the Governing Committee of the Un. of Parents of Large Families of Lemnos

In reply to your relevant letter, I have the honour to inform you of the following: The Minister of Agriculture Mr. Adamopoulos had ordered with interest the study of the draining of the above Chortarolimni and I believe that the draining will certainly and not at a distant time be decided and carried out. On this matter I give you my promise that I will attend to it as a matter of urgency, upon the formation of the Karamanlis Government, as I believe, on the day following the elections, and this promise of mine is a contract between myself and you, and you will be able to address yourselves directly after the elections as to a representative of your Union.

What remains is only your just request, that is the granting after the draining of the land from the lake to the destitute large families of Lemnos. This demand of yours is most just, but it conflicts with the provisions of the old agricultural code, which carries out the distribution of such land to landless cultivators. What we are seeking, to have it given to destitute large families, we are seeking what is more just, because the characterisation of the destitute established by law subsequent to the agricultural code presents the man in a stronger position than that of the landless cultivator, who is considered landless if he does not possess the defined area as his own property, and indeed makes the destitute person with many children most sympathetic, because he happens to be not only destitute but also with many children. The matter however requires legislative regulation. We will all make such an effort together, having justice on our side, and we will try with all our strength to persuade any who may object, and this promise I give you also as a work contract. You will have me as your deputy and lawyer on this matter and together we will try to seek the assistance not only of the competent Minister but also of our Prime Minister, as we believe, Konstantinos

Karamanlis, presenting to him as well the promise we have given, considering it just. We shall meet and you will not find me defaulting.

Cordially, Georgios Lazanas

And yet, Chortarolimni was not drained — not only that, but not even a word is spoken, after the passage of so many years, of any planned or possible draining of it.

The matter was dragged out until its stagnation by the communist mafia, which pursued this not only through the communist deputies of the NOME of Lesbos, but through all the communist deputies of the communist EDA and indeed of the parliamentary representative of the Communist Party of Greece, Ilias Iliou, a Lemnian, alas, in order to achieve by any means their unholy purpose, as they always achieved even under the Karamanlis government. It was dragged out so that living Greeks — children and infants for the most part — should not be relieved, because the international communist gang recruits followers only among the poor, the discontented, the disappointed and the poor in spirit, with the well-known communist deceptive promises.

Lemnos up to World War II had an intact bus service connecting all the villages, extending as far as the chapel of Agios Sozos, Patron Saint of the Island.

The 300 out of the 447 square kilometres of its entire surface were cultivated intensively and for the most part scientifically, and with competitive zeal the progressive among its inhabitants began to devote themselves to tree planting.

The cultivation of cereals, legumes and garden crops, particularly cotton, was monitored by the agronomists of the district for the most effective use of the various chemical fertilisers.

Trade flourished in all the villages without exception with 850 commercial establishments, 400 artisan ones, 5 Bank Branches in the Capital and 22 Bank Agencies in the larger villages. Livestock farming yielded many times more than before, because the Agricultural Bank from 1930 brought and made available abundant animal feeds, but also because during the four months of lactation, systematic dairy farms came from the rest of Greece and established themselves in the livestock-farming districts of the Island, at which the Lemnian livestock farmers sold the milk of their sheep and goats at profitable prices. Thus, the productive activity, the standard of living, the way of life and the conditions of education and entertainment of the inhabitants of Lemnos could only be compared with developed European island counterparts. During the summer period approximately 120 rural centers operated, and in the winter period the family gatherings at clubs, schools and winter centers impressed any kind of visitor.

Regrettably, on 9 September 1939 an unexpected great mass disaster shook and plunged the whole of Lemnos into mourning.

A travelling cinema micro-entrepreneur, through the mediation of three ladies of the select society of the Capital, having obtained a screening licence, which the Police had refused for 10 days to grant, screened in a closed space and indeed

THE CINEMA FIRE DISASTER

...inside an old Turkish mosque (Tzami), the film AVE MARIA was screened using an old-fashioned projector under tragicomic conditions, with the result that Lemnos mourned many deaths. The hall converted into a cinema, measuring 10×12 metres, held 300 spectators; the window shutters had been nailed shut from the outside with sheets of zinc by the entrepreneur so that no one could watch from outside free of charge, and the single entrance and exit door opened inward. At this door, the panic-stricken spectators rushed and crowded in terror, trampling those who had fallen, while heart-rending screams of horror and frenzy were heard from a great distance.

The fateful performance at which a talking picture was shown for the first time in Lemnos began at ten in the evening. Ten minutes later, while the audience was following the film with great interest, the projection was interrupted due to a malfunction, and shortly afterwards a huge flame shot out from the projector. The unspooling film ignited, and the flames spread instantaneously to surrounding objects, leaping both into the hall and onto the screen. Within one minute, smoke and flames had engulfed everything.

The panic-stricken spectators, seeing that escape through the door was impossible, screamed in desperation to smash the window shutters — which was indeed done. Many were saved by jumping into the void from a height of 3.5 metres. Those who were sitting near the door when the fire broke out were also saved, as were those who managed in time to jump from the balcony onto the roof of the adjacent building.

Shortly afterwards, the brave and stalwart late Nikolaos Gerakas, a native of Kontias, rescued ten people through the half-opened door — people bearing severe burns — and in his last effort, two more through the flames. That was the last heroic exit from the inferno, for immediately afterwards the wooden upper gallery (a wooden mezzanine floor, commonly called a patari) collapsed, burying beneath it all those unfortunates who were found below it. The horrifying scenes that unfolded in the hall during the conflagration defy description. Many were trapped and pinned by the seats, from which they were ultimately unable to free themselves.

Thus, the mosque, reduced to ashes within an hour, was transformed into a mass grave for 62 unfortunate Lemnians, drawn from among the prominent figures of the capital as well as from those settled in Egypt.

The toll of this great catastrophe for Lemnos was terrible: besides the 62 who perished in the flames, there were another 100 seriously and lightly wounded, many of whom were transported by the steamship Kerkyra to Mytilene.

Among the 62 victims were the then Prefect of Lemnos Georgios Salias and his wife Maria — the very Prefect whom we heard say, as he was entering the hall: "Why, we shall be burnt alive tonight. What is this?" — the Manager of the National Bank Delaggramatikas and his wife Phopho, Chrysoula Emm. Konstantinidou, Elissavet Phrangakis, Olga Poriassis, Lili Apostolou Karatzas, Despina Sidirellis, Anna widow of Dim. Kisemlis, Chrysoula Athanasiou Tsolakis aged 30, Agathi Phamiliadou, Nina Karasavva, Maria Sakkiadou, the lawyer Vlasios Mpourlioufas aged 60 together with his daughter Maria and his nephew Vyron aged 16, the dentist Stephanos Oikonomidis together with his wife and his beautiful daughter Artemis (midwife), Dimitrios Varitis aged 46, Theophanes Varitis aged 19,

Aurelia Michailidou aged 16, Alekos Karapiperis aged 28, Smaro Rizoglou aged 20, Theodoros Diamantidis aged 36 and his wife Paraskevi aged 22, Sosi wife of Andreas Noulas aged 34, Louis A. Noulas aged 14, Phroso Kontoleontos aged 25, Anna Kontoleontos aged 7, Michail Paterakis, Koula wife of Georgios Straphtis, Sotirios Georgiadis aged 33, Sappho Zapheiridou aged 42 and her daughter aged 18, Paroula Douka, Kiki I. Pantelia aged 18, Despina wife of Konstantinos Laskaridis aged 23, Zoi wife of the surgeon Malachias, Photini Polytaridou aged 16, M. Polytaridou aged 15, Photini wife of M. Sougioultsis aged 50, the physician Evangelos Komninos aged 58, Koula E. Komninou aged 17, Mpetta wife of Kavvadas aged 23, Milto wife of the Inspector of Lemnos Pittakos Orphanidis, Michail P. Orphanidis aged 16, Eleni Argyriou, Nikolaos Krasas, Maria Patrikianou, the outstanding late lawyer Nikolettos Viglas aged 25, the physician Dardanopoulos aged 29, and others.

These are the principal matters concerning the capital city of Myrina.

THE LIBERATION OF LEMNOS — 8 OCTOBER 1912

Lemnos, after 433 years of adventure and desperate struggles, presenting herself on 8 October 1912 — the day of her liberation from the chains of bondage — to her laurel-crowned liberators, with a voice broken with enthusiasm and ineffable emotion, declared:

OBEYING YOUR WORDS, I REJOICE, HOLDING MOST HELLENIC BELIEFS.

A reality of the greatest historical significance. An indisputable historical truth, in defiance of the German Fallmerayer, the Russian Vasiliev, and the Communists who shamelessly distort historical truths for the pleasure of the masters of the Communist subterranean mafia seated in the Kremlin.

Those who liberated the remote, small and powerless island of Lemnos in the Northern Aegean — without exception, from the soldier, the sailor, the marine, the non-commissioned officer, up to the officer and the glorious admiral, the late Pavlos Kountouriotis — were astonished and questioned themselves whether Lemnos had ever been enslaved, and whether she had endured the persecutions, oppressions, massacres and other horrors that they heard of with sympathy and grief. The reception afforded to the liberators of Lemnos by the inhabitants gave the impression of welcoming a free island that had not suffered under bondage.

The moving scenes that unfolded during the landing of the Greek landing force, shortly after midday on 8 October 1912 at the position "Vourlídia" in the Gulf of Mudros, the thousands of Lemnians who followed the force as far as Koroni and thence to the village of Lera, outside which 280 Turks had fortified themselves but who surrendered as soon as they caught sight of our men, the bloodless capture of all the authorities and of the fortified Fortress itself upon which the flag of Freedom and Greek Glory was unfurled, the thanksgiving service celebrated the following day for the liberation in the cathedral church of the Holy Trinity, the speeches delivered thereat, and the three-day festive celebrations that followed — with torch-lit processions, local and national dances and patriotic songs, in which all the primary schools of the capital, of Androni and **Tsasi** took part — the 30 churches and 30 schools in the 30 villages of that time, the seat of the Metropolis of Lemnos housed in the mansion of the great late benefactor Antonios Antoniadis, donated by him in 1911 together

with all the surrounding grove and flower garden, the 500 chapels then in excellent condition, built at various points of the island, the Monastic Dependencies — 1) of CHRISTOS, belonging to the Monastery of Agia Lavra, in the village of Kontias; 2) of Alexopyrgos, whose little chapel AGIA SOTERA survives to this day in good condition; 3) of Trygis; 4) of Charakas; 5) of Gomati; 6) of Plaka— and finally the privilege of Self-Administration in all the villages, each of which was governed by its own Council of Elders (Dimogerontia), composed entirely of Greeks, who settled the disputes of their fellow-villagers under the presidency of the priest in each village — all these are the feats accomplished by Hellenic sentiment during the centuries-long captivity.

PROCLAMATION OF ADMIRAL KOUNTOURIOTIS

IN THE NAME OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE I OF THE HELLENES.

**WE, REAR ADMIRAL PAVLOS KOUNTOURIOTIS, COMMANDER OF THE FLEET OF THE AEGEAN,
TO THE INHABITANTS OF LEMNOS, PROCLAIM AND ORDER:**

- 1) The island of Lemnos with all its towns, villages and settlements together with its harbours and shores has been occupied by us and henceforth remains in our possession.
- 2) The Ottoman authorities on the island, with the exception of the local administrative officials, are dismissed; their powers shall be exercised by the Commander of the occupation force.
- 3) This Commander has the authority to employ for the Administration the existing officials, but may also replace them according to the needs and interests of the service.
- 4) Local affairs shall be conducted until further order by us as heretofore and by the same officials, but under the higher supervision of the Commander of the force, who has the right to replace the incompetent or negligent.
- 5) The laws and local customs hitherto in force, whether of an administrative or penal nature, shall continue to be applied by the various administrative or judicial authorities under the supervision of the Commander of the force, who has the right to be informed of any matter and to order that those reports be submitted to him.
- 6) We guarantee the absolute respect and inviolable preservation of private rights — of religious and personal liberty, of life, honour, family relations and property — to all inhabitants of the occupied Island, without distinction of racial origin or religion, regarding all alike as equals in rights and obligations; and we especially guarantee protection to sacred, pious and philanthropic establishments, whose property shall remain intact and be administered as heretofore without the intervention of the Commander of the force.
- 7) The safeguarding of the above-guaranteed rights against any threat of violation is entrusted to

the Commander of the force, who shall police the island by means of the Occupation army, with authority to issue police orders of any content, but general for all inhabitants and imposing equal obligations upon them without distinction of origin or religion.

8) We expressly prohibit the bearing of arms by all inhabitants of the Island; they are all obliged, within a deadline to be set by the Commander of the force, to surrender their weapons to the Occupation Army. For the execution of the disarmament, we permit the Commander of the force to impose the strictest measures, even against whole villages.

9) The inhabitants of the occupied Island are obliged to continue paying to the collectors appointed by the Commander of the force the taxes and duties hitherto fixed by the Ottoman State, so that from these the expenses of the administration of the Island may primarily be met. The inhabitants and villages are likewise obliged to make the special contributions in kind and in money that the Commander of the force may order, who also has the right of compulsory expropriation against compensation.

10) We call upon all inhabitants of the Island to continue in peace and order their private affairs, obeying the laws and orders of the Commander of the force and avoiding any action liable to disturb public safety.

11) Any act or attempted act endangering the safety of the Occupation force, the Fleet and its crews, or the interests of Greece, shall be tried by court-martial as a crime of high treason and shall be punishable by death, 24 hours after sentence.

The present shall be communicated to the inhabitants of the Island by the Commander of the force.

At the Port of Mudros, 8 October 1912

The Rear Admiral Commander PAVLOS KOUNTOURIOTIS

From that time onward, free Lemnos took part in all the wars that Mother Greece waged from 1913 onwards, for the liberation of her enslaved brethren and to repel invasions, against which, however powerful they were, she always proudly opposed her resounding NO — as in the NO of the third hour after midnight on 28 October 1940, spoken through the lips of the glorious late National Leader Ioannis Metaxas, which shook the Earth and astounded humanity.

THE FALLEN LEMNIANS BY VILLAGE AND WAR

KONTIAS

Asia Minor Campaign

1)Odysseus Politaridis, 2) Stergios Albanis, 3) Nikolaos Glefaros, 4) Stavros Giannos, 5) Ioannis Gkavnoudias, 6) Dimitrios Lyroudias, 7) Dimitrios Mitsilias, 8) Dimitrios Kellaris, 9) Christos Gritzalis, 10) Palaiologos Kaltsounis, 11) Nikolaos Kaltsounis, 12) Theodoros Arvanitakis, 13) Agorastos Kalkatzikos, 14) Georgios Tsangalias, 15) Nikolaos Tsangalias, 16) Christos Kounelias, 17) Agorastos

KONTIAS

Lantouris, 18) Konstantinos Takos, 19) Pantelis Kalogiannis, 20) Panagiotis Kalogiannis, 21) Charalampos Leventakis, 22) Ioannis Polytaridis, 23) Dionysios Gkavnoudias, 24) Georgios Gkavnoudias, 25) Panagiotis Roumeliotis.

Greco-Italian War 1940–1941

26) Dimitrios Kardamilas, 27) Panagiotis Giannakis, 28) Eleftherios Karvelis, 29) Christos Karamoschos, 30) Charalampos Katogias.

Middle East Campaign

31) Nikolaos Tsalapatas.

War against the Communist Insurgents

32) Konstantinos Kisemlis, 33) Theophanes Vlangkos (son of Ioannis).

Korean War

34) Sozon Kontylias.

MYRINA

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Alexandros Aivaliotis, 2) Konstantinos Aivaliotis, 3) Georgios Paraschakis, 4) Ioannis Paraschakis, 5) Stergios Avgos, 6) Michail Imvriotis, 7) Konstantinos Mpakalis, 8) Ioannis Pnakos, 9) Photios Kazolis, 10) Nikolaos Mathioudakis, 11) Stephanos Stathakis, 12) Georgios Mpournias, 13) Ioannis Papaioannou, 14) Evangelos Tsoukalos, 15) Sotirios Kisemlis, 16) Athanasios Tsigkrikas (or Deligiannis), 17) Konstantinos Pavlidis, 18) Dimitrios Chatzirodos, 19) Panagiotis Vodiklaris.

Greco-Italian War 1940–1941

20) Ioannis Arvanitakis (Port Commander), 21) Panagiotis Dimoulas (2nd Lieutenant), 22) Konstantinos Sarantoglou, 23) Nikolaos Kaltsounis, 24) Nikolaos Varitis.

War against the Communist Insurgents

25) Ioannis Petridis, 26) Andreas Moraitis, 27) Panagiotis Elias, 28) Dimitrios Mavrellis, 29) Stellios Vlatas, 30) Timoleon Trataros.

Korean War

31) Stylianos Vapheides.

KONTOPOULION

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Evangelos Arampatzis, 2) Moschos Atsikelis, 3) Konstantinos Atsikelis, 4) Sarantos Vapheas, 5) Nikolaos Vapheas, 6) Vasileios Garophalis, 7) Vasileios Gkioulphidanis, 8) Efstratios Gkioulphidanis,

9) Ioannis Evangelinos, 10) Omiros Kakalidis, 11) Theodoros Konsoulas, 12) Panagiotis Kaparos, 13) Vasileios Liverios, 14) Photios Lagnas, 15) Thomas Mpountloukos, 16) Panagiotis Mpougiouklis, 17) Panagiotis Rodaros, 18) Triandaphyllos Sidirellis, 19) Alexandros Sphounos, 20) Efstratios Sevastos, 21) Alexandros Tamvakis, 22) Nikolaos Charanis, 23) Menelaos Chatzoglou.

Greco-Italian War - Kontopoulion

24) Efstratios Mpampoukos, 25) Antonios Mpountloukos, 26) Stam. Mpezas.

War against the Communist Insurgents - Kontopoulion

27) Eleftherios Katsiliotis, 28) Dimitrios Mpaltzis, 29) Nikolaos Monachos, 30) Alexandros Paramythis.

KASPAKAS

First World War

1) Georgios Katramados, 2) Stylianos Vourgos, 3) Eleftherios Choros.

Asia Minor Campaign

4) Georgios Chrysokephalos, 5) Lampros Tsopaneras, 6) Emmanouel Rigas, 7) Savvas Phrangos, 8) Triandaphyllos Lianos, 9) Panagiotis Saragas, 10) Georgios Gavanos, 11) Ioannis Chrysokephalos, 12) Konstantinos Chrysokephalos.

Greco-Italian War

13) Photios Karagiannakis, 14) Ioannis Mpouloutis, 15) Dimitrios Vourgos, 16) Photios Giorgantis.

War against the Communist Insurgents

17) Antonios Mparmpadis, 18) Athanasios Choros, 19) Dimitrios Tsamperis, 20) Pantelis Souris, 21) Athanasios Tsamperis.

ROMANOU

First World War

1) Tilemachos Macheras, 2) Antonios Papantoniou, 3) Savvas Tzartzalis, 4) Vagios Tsitsis, 5) Georgios Tzanis, 6) Nikolaos Chatzivasileiou, 7) Ilias Mavrolampados, 8) Theophanes Partsalis, 9) Stavros Mavrolampados.

Asia Minor Campaign

10) Theophanes Apostolou, 11) Kostas Vedtsonis, 12) Grigorios Manaveris, 13) Georgios Makridis, 14) Christos Pourniotis, 15) Pantelis Rakatzis.

Greco-Italian War

16) Christos Lyrstis, 17) Christos Lagos, 18) Georgios Mavroudes.

War against the Communist Insurgents

17) Theophanes Tzartzalis.

THANOS

Greco-Bulgarian War

1) Ioannis Chochlios, 2) Athanasios Kamamis, 3) Dimitrios Patronias, 4) Ioannis Charitos, 5) Konstantinos Zographos, 6) Philippos Patronias.

Asia Minor Campaign

7) Charalampos Voulgaris, 8) Ioannis Antonaros, 9) Nikolaos Loulgeris, 10) Vasileios Saraglis, 11) Anastasios Giamarellos, 12) Athanasios Phylladitis, 13) Nikolaos Saraglis, 14) Antonios Velissariou.

Greco-Italian War

15) Vasileios Prassas, 16) Efthymios Zarimis, 17) Emmanouel Petras.

War against the Communist Insurgents

18) Agorastos N. Koukos, 19) Dimosthenis Dimitriadis.

PLATYS

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Pantelis Stavridis, 2) Antonios Parisis, 3) Georgios Vertsonis, 4) Andreas Skopelitis, 5) Philippos Vertsonis, 6) Dimitrios Zapheiroopoulos, 7) Evangelos Parisis, 8) Pavlos Tsaptsinos, 9) Photios Giannoudis, 10) Dimitrios Stephanis, 11) Ioannis Patronias.

Greco-Italian War

12) Evangelos Chacholos, 13) Christos Mavrellis.

War against the Communist Insurgents

14) 2nd Lieutenant Agorastos Vertsonis, 15) Photios Giannoudias, 16) Evangelos Aligounarias, 17) Nikolaos Arvanitis.

AGIOS DIMITRIOS

First World War

1) Konstantinos Eleftherakes, 2) Dimitrios Gkiorgkines, 3) Spyros Loulakis.

Asia Minor Campaign

4) Dimitrios Elias, 5) Nikolaos Misetzis, 6) Stamatis Andriotakis, 7) Stamatis Diakogiannis, 8) Theodoros Diakogiannis, 9) Nikolaos Chrysaphis, 10) Konstantinos Lazaridis, 11) Georgios Mprououlis, 12) Ioannis Vagakis, 13) Georgios Paterakis, 14) Nikolaos Xynos, 15) Nikolaos Gkagkas, 16) Georgios Morakis, 17) Zacharias Chatzirodos.

REPANIDION

First World War

1) Charalampos Plaphadellis, 2) Panagiotis Alateras, 3) Efstratios Kafkis, 4) Kleovouloç Zapheiriou, 5) Petros Photiou, 6) Georgios Nikolakaros.

Asia Minor Campaign

7) Alexandros Laskaridis, 8) Konstantinos Agiostratits, 9) Nikolaos Chrysaphes, 10) Konstantinos Lazaridis, 11) Theodoros Tsoukalas, 12) Konstantinos Senimis, 13) Ioannis Konstantineris, 14) Georgios Dasopatis.

Greco-Italian War

15) Dimitrios Alateras.

War against the Communist Insurgents

16) Ioannis Petis.

TSIMANDRIA

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Iordanis Koutsaplis, 2) Triandaphyllos Tzouroutis, 3) Tryphon Goudis, 4) Konstantinos Varelias, 5) Achilleas Lamprinos.

First World War

6) Christos Kydas, 7) Athanasios Kalaphatis.

War against the Communist Insurgents

8) 2nd Lieutenant Georgios Goudis, 9) Aggelos Koukos, 10) Panagiotis Ntanintanis, 11) Charalampos Kalatzis, 12) Dimitrios Mplias, 13) Georgios Charamis, 14) Stavros Varelias, 15) Konstantinos Psaradellis, 16) Georgios Avaras.

SARDES

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Antonios Konstantaras, 2) Athanasios Mpalderanos, 3) Petros Roupfos, 4) Panagiotis Charos, 5) Aggelos Vakirtsis, 6) Antonios Tsatmas, 7) Christos Drakos, 8) Eleftherios Skopitis, 9) Dimitrios Tsangatos, 10) Konstantinos Phamiliadis, 11) Triandaphyllos Konstantaras, 12) Panagiotis Gaitanos, 13) Antonios Tservoulas.

War against the Communist Insurgents

14) Stergios Lagos, 15) Konstantinos Melatos.

KALLIOPI

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Georgios Apelatos, 2) Georgios Tsigrikis, 3) Michail Chatzivasileiou, 4) Nikolaos Mpaklatis, 5) Nikolaos Kapetanios, 6) Nikolaos Gialouris, 7) Panagiotis Diminakis, 8) Photios Apelatos, 9) Christos Tsigrikis, 10) Triandaphyllos Diminakis.

First World War

11) Nikolaos Vorgias, 12) Stellios Sougioultsis.

Second World War

13) Efstratios Gialouris (executed by the Germans).

War against the Communist Insurgents

14) Panagiotis Albanis, 15) Evangelos Christophorou.

ATSIKI

First World War

1) Anastasios Vlotaros, 2) Georgios Paneras.

Asia Minor Campaign

3) Nikolaos Moschelias, 4) Dimitrios Katmakis, 5) Georgios Kagkalis, 6) Stratis Kriaris, 7) Konstantinos Kazanas, 8) Konstantinos Evangelidakis.

Greco-Italian War

9) Pantelis Kavalleris, 10) Antonios Parathyras.

War against the Communist Insurgents

11) Aristeidis Manoloukos, 12) Komnas Tsimouris, 13) Ioannis Kalarchakis, 14) Panagiotis Saliagas.

KORNOS

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Anastasios Achiladellis, 2) Ioannis Gavanos, 3) Ioannis Katsonis.

Battle of Skra

4) Aggelos Alevras, 5) Antonios Papoutsos, 6) Charalampos Mpriotis, 7) Ioannis Varitis, 8) Pantelis Prokopios, 9) Ilias Mpanavos, 10) Ilias Volaris, 11) Ioannis Tsiplakis.

KORNOS

War against the Communist Insurgents

12) Athanasios Palaistros, 13) Dimitrios Goulios.

MUDROS

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Panagiotis Mpaktis, 2) Ioannis Dardanis, 3) Evangelos Makris.

Battle of Skra

4) Ioannis Mpitzikis, 5) Konstantinos Mpitzikis.

War against the Communist Insurgents

6) Dimitrios Aslanakis, 7) Emmanouel Diomitsas, 8) Sophoklis Terzis, 9) Photios Elefteriou, 10) Theophanes Karamalis, 11) Evangelos Terzis, 12) Aristeidis Triantaphlaros.

KAMINIA

First World War

1) Triandaphyllos Doukarellis, 2) Thomas Zeimpekis, 3) Elissaios Tzitzes, 4) Athanasios Pastris, 5) Efstratios Palamoutis, 6) Dimitrios Kyriazis.

Asia Minor Campaign

7) Nikolaos Dimarellis, 8) Nikolaos Konstantellis, 9) Charalampos Konstantellis, 10) Anastasios Papoutsis.

War against the Communist Insurgents

11) Konstantinos Ageladas, 12) Dimitrios Dagklis.

ROSSOPOULION

Battle of Skra

1) Stylianos Gratsonis, 2) Sotirios Pantselias.

Asia Minor Campaign

3) Vasileios Pastris, 4) Panagiotis Kavouras, 6) Nikolaos Pastris, 7) Zapheiris Ntilempasis, 8) Georgios Kaltsounis.

Greco-Italian War

9) Dimitrios Tsimouris, 10) Triandaphyllos Zargoutsos, 11) Antonios Papageorgiou, 12) Triandaphyllos Venetopoulos.

LYCHNA

First World War

1) Vasileios Mpasmpaleris, 2) Ioannis Mpalampanis.

Greco-Italian War

2) Pantelis Matsikas, 4) Charalampos Charalampoudis, 5) Dimitrios Achilias, 6) Aggelos Chletsos, 7) Theocharis Mpiantes, 8) Leonidas Pagonis, 9) Georgios Mpalampanis, 10) Panagiotis Apostolou (executed by the Germans).

KARPASI

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Antonios Kakarnias, 2) Terpandros Chalamandaris, 3) Ioannis Tamvakis.

Greco-Italian War

4) Ilias Giannakis, 5) Agorastos Loudaras.

War against the Communist Insurgents

6) Panagiotis Makridis, 7) Georgios Skapetis, 8) Georgios Psomotragos.

SARPI

Battle of Skra

1) Emmanouel Photiadis, 2) Epameinondas P. Emmanouel, 3) Eleftherios Skopelitis, 4) Christos Mpitsakos, 5) Georgios Vakirtsis.

Asia Minor Campaign

6) Georgios Ipp. Psillos, 7) Athanasios Ph. Vakirtsis, 8) Grigorios Ath. Votsos.

VAROS

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Omiros Ntinias, 2) Nikolaos Tragarellis, 3) Christos Panagiotlakis, 4) Ioannis Kotsilitis, 5) Konstantinos Mammos, 6) Konstantinos Zembekis, 7) Nikolaos Lalaitis, 8) Evangelos Angelidis.

Battle of Skra

9) Efstratios Karampinis.

PORTIANOU - First World War

1) Charilaos Vogdanos, 2) Panagiotis Papamargaritis, 3) Charalampos Klonaridis, 4) Spyros Aphkoudias, 5) Anastasios Klapsos, 6) Konstantinos Poriakis, 7) Dimitrios Psaradellis, 8) Anastasios Kephalas.

Second World War

9) Ioannis Tsotroudīs, 10) Menelaos Lyroudias, 11) Dimitrios Aslanakis.

LEIVADOCHORI

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Georgios Chalamandaris, 2) Alexandros Chitsos, 3) Pantelis Chitsos, 4) Konstantinos Karamoschos, 5) Athanasios Paneras, 6) Laskaris Mapas, 7) Georgios Egglezos, 8) Konstantinos Mpampanis.

PHYSINI

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Vasileios Kokkinaras, 2) Dimitrios Michaleros, 3) Grigorios Paraschos, 4) Andreas Psaris, 5) Ioannis Psaris, 6) Panagiotis Psaris, 7) Nikolaos Kyriakis.

Greco-Italian War

8) Dimitrios Phouskoudis.

War against the Communist Insurgents

9) Athanasios Neroulis.

SKANDALI

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Aggelos Kechagias, 2) Athanasios Arsenikos, 3) Konstantinos Asimotos, 4) Triandaphyllos Kouzinos, 5) Nikolaos Delis.

Greco-Italian War

6) Konstantinos Mavrothalassitis, 7) Dimitrios Phouskoudis, 8) Photios Acheilias.

PANAGIA

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Vasileios Lagos, 2) Vasileios Souroutis, 3) Vasileios Katogoudis, 4) Alexandros Manolakoudis, 5) Panagiotis Oikonomou, 6) Stylianos Chatzoglou.

War against the Communist Insurgents

7) Ioannis Tsouvalas, 8) Zacharias Katsoulis.

PESPERAGON (NOW PEDINON)

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Dimitrios Kourniotis, 2) Stavros Kaltsounis, 3) Charalampos Lyridis, 4) Vasileios Mavrokopoulos.

Greco-Italian War

5) Georgios Mavroudes.

War against the Communist Insurgents

6) Michail Makris, 7) Theophanes Kephalas.

PLAKA

Asia Minor Campaign

1) Antonios Moschos, 2) Sotirios Daniil.

Greco-Italian War

3) Georgios Kamvysis.

War against the Communist Insurgents 4) Georgios Tmpanosglou, 5) Emmanouel Petsitis.

NEA KOUTALI

War against the Communist Insurgents 1) Sideris Sideris.

THE NAVAL BATTLE OF LEMNOS

From the day of the liberation of Lemnos, the Greek Fleet at anchor in the safe Gulf of Mudros was keeping constant watch on the frequent appearances of Turkish warships before the Dardanelles, which suggested that the Turks were preparing for a confrontation but were at the same time afraid of it. It was later discovered that, in order to weaken the strength of the Greek Fleet, they ordered the cruiser Hamidiye to exit the Dardanelles and provoke pursuit by the Greek cruiser Averof. However, it failed in its purpose, and after attacking civilian vessels in the Aegean for several days it eventually took refuge in the Red Sea, where it remained until the end of the war.

On 5 January 1913, the commander of the Turkish fleet, Tahir, having first personally conducted a reconnaissance before the Dardanelles aboard the flagship Haireddin Barbarossa, sailed forth at the head of the entire Turkish fleet, heading at full speed against the Greek Fleet anchored at Mudros.

Admiral Kountouriotis, duly informed by the Greek torpedo boats patrolling before the Straits, gave the signal for immediate sailing and the signal: THE ADMIRAL WISHES THE BRAVE STAFFS AND CREWS A GOOD DAY — whereupon the Greek fleet left Mudros at full speed.

Shortly before noon, from a distance of 8,500 metres off the coast of Lemnos, the Turkish fleet began simultaneous fire against the vessels of the Greek fleet, which, having first reduced the distance to 6,500 metres by a well-executed maneuver, responded with withering fire.

At precisely noon, the battleship Mesudiye, severely struck by our battleships Hydra and Psara, left the line heading towards the Dardanelles with smoke and fires; shortly afterwards the flagship of the Turkish fleet, the Barbarossa, was also ablaze with many fires, while from her mast the historic signal "Haireddin" disappeared. At 2:30, the Turkish fleet, damaged and defeated, was sailing back to the Straits of the Dardanelles fleeing in disorder, while the battleship AVEROF, increasing her speed, struck accurately the last ship in line, the Turgut, causing it serious damage resulting in fires.

The losses of the Greek fleet in this historic Naval Battle of Lemnos were minimal and negligible. Turkey consequently was unable to carry out sea transport of its troops from Asia Minor to protect its coastline and its merchant vessels, nor to outflank the Balkan states at the various Balkan fronts.

THE ARMISTICE OF MUDROS

In historic Mudros, which served as the base of the Greek fleet during the Balkan Wars of 1912–1913, and later also as the base of the British fleet throughout the First World War for the great military operation against the Dardanelles, the historic ARMISTICE of the First World War was also signed on 30 October 1918 between the Allied Powers constituting the ENTENTE on the one hand, and Turkey on the other. Unfortunately, the victorious Balkan War was followed by the First World War, and that in turn by the Asia Minor or Greco-Turkish War, as a result of which Lemnos was unable to develop and prosper at a faster pace.

POST-LIBERATION DEVELOPMENT OF LEMNOS

Nevertheless, from 1913 until 25 April 1941 — that is, until its occupation by the Germans — the island flourished as never before. After the conclusion of the two victorious wars, thousands of Lemnians settled abroad, overjoyed at the liberation of their small homeland enslaved for so many centuries, began streaming back to visit it, to kneel and kiss the free ancestral soil and to embrace in tears of emotion their relatives, whom for the first time they came to know.

Their love for them was shown in every way: besides the precious gifts they brought, they proceeded to purchase properties on their behalf, or helped them to engage in a trade. The remaining financial resources they had brought with them they used to build from the foundations houses, villas and farmsteads on the ancestral agricultural holdings, or on properties they purchased from the Turks — or, most importantly, to contribute effectively to the progress of their village.

During those years, roads and squares were opened and paved, rural communication routes were laid out, aqueducts and water cisterns were constructed, the fish-breeding facility of the brothers Konstantinos and Othonas Vapheas and their uncle, the late Ioannis Phergadiotis, in the village of Pesperagon (today Pedinon), fountains inside the villages and in various other locations on the island, war memorials, churches, and small harbour works at some coastal villages.

All these were achieved at the expense of the Lemnians abroad, many of whom settled permanently in their villages, contributing thereby not only to the development of commerce but also to the establishment of small industries: knitwear workshops, oil mills for the crushing of sesame, flour

mills, factories for the production of carbonated beverages — the finest of all being that of architect Mr. Konstantinos Vapheas, established in 1929 at Therma — together with other worthy establishments, thus shaping the customarily hopeful conditions for rapid development towards a comfortable standard of living unprecedented before.

Thus in 1941 Lemnos, with 32 communities, had a population of 30,100 inhabitants. In the post-war period, after the census of 1954, the population fell to 24,103, and today, with 36 communities, it does not number even 20,000.

Due to mass emigration abroad, half the cultivable area remains uncultivated, while the livestock, which in 1941 numbered 160,000 to 170,000 head of sheep and goats, today does not exceed 30,000.

The villages which then reached the peak of their prosperity were:

"Kontias, Kornos and Atsiki and Kontopoulio and Sarpi — Varos and Mudros and Platys and Portianou with their little Pari."

Today Kontias, the largest village of Lemnos, is declining more than the others due to its disadvantageous location. The entire body of the inhabitants requests that the 370-acre expanse of the former Monastic Dependency 'Christos', which was badly and unjustly distributed among 92 landless farmers, be redistributed in equal portions to all the families of the village, after roads and squares have first been laid out, upon immediate payment of the value of each plot.

Only then will the village of Kontias breathe again, and within a very short time, from a declining inland semi-mountainous village as it was 600 or 700 years ago — a flourishing coastal town lying on the bay of the same name.

LEMNOS DURING AND AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The assignment of the presidency of the Government on 13 April 1936 by His Majesty King George II of the Hellenes to the leader of the Liberal-Minded Party, the late General Ioannis Metaxas, signalled the beginning of the EPIC of 1940–1941.

Greece, after eight years of political and economic turbulence during which the Greek people had witnessed parliamentary improprieties of every kind, automatically entered a period of orderly political life, as if by magic.

A conscious Greek, a prudent politician, and a perceptive and highly capable general staff officer, the late Ioannis Metaxas sensed the Fascist danger when none of the political figures foresaw it.

The seizure and bombardment of Corfu in 1923, the feverish pre-war preparations of Fascist Italy, the threats in every direction and the boasts of Mussolini about the IMPERO ROMANO and the MARE NOSTRUM, but above all the Italo-Albanian agreement concluded on 2 November 1926, by which Italy acquired privileges over Albania...



THE UNFORGETTABLE IOANNIS METAXAS

...were for him indications fraught with dangerous complications for Greece, to prevent and confront which he was obliged to move as quickly as possible. He therefore took advantage of the dictatorial climate then prevailing in Europe, dissolved Parliament, suspended the constitution, and on the 4th of August imposed the dictatorship.



The Great Greek Who Has Passed Away

The bloodless Dictatorship of the 4th of August 1936 preserved all the individual liberties of the Greek citizen. It secured monetary stability, strengthened the Greek spirit as never before, raised Greek morale, freed the Country from political degradation, effectively suppressed communism, reorganised the entire state machinery, confined the army to its purely military duties, and prepared it admirably for the EPIC.

The foremost concern of the unforgettable Ioannis Metaxas, from the moment he imposed the dictatorship, was the construction of the defensive fortification line along the Bulgarian border — the Metaxas Line — which, as an achievement, is more than sufficient for History to silence those enemies of truth belonging to the camp of the socialists (communists), who absurdly seek to obscure his great fortification work and the remarkable preparation for defence and offence based on a strategic plan drawn up by him and Commander-in-Chief Alexandros Papagos to confront and repel the Italo-Albanians. This plan, put into effect immediately after the unexpected invasion of the homeland by the fascist military forces of Mussolini, astonished all of humanity and contributed to the rearing up — those who continue rearing up to this day — of the grovelling deniers of historical truth.

What head of state of a parliamentary government would have risked uttering a NO such as the NO of the 28th of October, without resorting to Parliament and the King?

At three o'clock in the morning, while all Greeks slept, the unforgettable Ioannis Metaxas ALONE said NO, and for this reason he is the supremely brilliant star of the EPIC of 1940–1941, of which all of Greece boasts and will boast forever, just as it has boasted for millennia of the "MOLON LABE" spoken by Leonidas alone, and of the "FOR IT IS OUR COMMON RESOLVE THAT WE SHALL ALL DIE WILLINGLY, SPARING NOT OUR LIVES" spoken alone by Emperor Constantine Palaiologos XI, regardless of the fact that both the Spartans of Leonidas fell to the last man at Thermopylae and the 9,000 defenders of the City.

The Lemnians, at the morning bugle call "Onwards, children of Greece..." of the 28th of October 1940, of their great leader the unforgettable Ioannis Metaxas, poured forth irresistibly, as if charging, from all the villages, resolved to punish exemplarily — along with the other Greeks — the invader who had not hesitated, in time of peace and without any cause, to torpedo two months earlier the cruiser of the Greek Fleet, "Elli", anchored outside the port of the island of Tinos, where it had gone to participate in the festival of the Evangelistria. They poured forth and hastened to make their way to Moudros to report to their units, namely: the Naval Base under Admiral Oikonomou, the Independent Lemnos Battalion being formed under Infantry Major Dimitrios Bebas, the Anti-Aircraft Company under Captain Charalambos Papavasiliou, and the Garrison under Garrison Commander Colonel Georgios Paterakis.

The duties of General Administrator of Lemnos had been assumed by the Commander of the Lemnos Gendarmerie, Major Argyrios Patsalias, who embodied Mother Greece throughout the entire duration of the war against Italy. A man of integrity, most noble and with deep awareness of his duties toward the Fatherland, during those critical moments he travelled day and night across the Island, until the day of its occupation by the Germans, giving instructions, advice and orders to the local community authorities and to the inhabitants.

Such was the enthusiasm gripping the enlisted Lemnians on that day that most of them went on foot to Moudros to report to their units — and not only that, but along the way they also mocked the Italians: "Those Macaroni-eaters, they took us for macaroni!" "You, Paminondas, will be swallowed by the wolves of Tuscany!" "And you will be compared to the Centaurs!" "Hey lads, what



The Prime Minister of "NO" (OXI), the unforgettable Ioannis Metaxas, followed by the enthusiastic Greek people after Greece's entry into the war against Italy

a treat it will be to go to Naples and have them feed us macaroni "all'ossobuco!" "Oh, those Bersaglieri and those Alpinists — what sort of wild beasts are they?" "From what I have heard, they are very bloodthirsty; so much so that when they spot a Greek evzone they take to their heels and disappear!"

The Battalion, embarking on the troopship "Korinthia", departed heading for Thessaloniki on the evening of the 7th of November, shortly before sunset, escorted by the destroyers "Aetos" and "Hierax" and one aircraft, which departed when darkness fell.

It arrived in Thessaloniki at dawn, whereupon it was pushed forward to the village of Charmankiöy. There, the men of the engineering corps — among them Angelos Phylladitis, Athanasios Phylladitis, Pavlos Gkavitsos, Athanasios Kolaras and Antonios Laspatzis — repaired the bridge that had been blown up by the Italians.

On the fourth day the entire Battalion was transferred by rail from Charmankiöy to Amyntaion, where it joined the 22nd Regiment of Mytilene and headed toward Viglistsa. At Viglistsa the Regiment was ordered to proceed to reinforce the 9th Division, which was about to attack the Italians in the mountainous massif of Morava. During its march it arrived at the village of Kotsista, where it replaced its armament with new equipment. After a five-hour march it arrived at Morava, where it learned that the 9th Division had already attacked the Italians and was pursuing them hot on their heels. It therefore encamped at the village of Pot Gorja, whence, on the following day, it marched toward the Front, where it took part in many skirmishes and assaults. On the 6th of December it was ordered to return to Korytsa to assume the garrison of the city and remain there for a 20-day rest.

On the 26th of December the Archipelago Division was ordered to hasten to the Front and replace the Cretan Division.

Around the middle of March, it was ordered to capture Hill 1532 from among the heights of Bogradets, which the Italians had held for months and had fortified. This was taken in a sudden night attack with heavy enemy losses and many prisoners, and with no losses on our side. On the 6th and 7th of April the 22nd Battalion of Mytilene and the Independent Battalion of Lemnos took part in the great battle of Bogradets.

The incomparably superior enemy military mass, excellently fortified in the heights, was driven from its fortified positions and pushed back with heavy losses. In this battle many Lemnians fell, among them Sergeant Ioannis Tsotroudīs from Pourtiano, while Nikolaos Pantzos and Konstantinos Kazolis from Adroni and others distinguished themselves. Among those who fell heroically on other sectors of the Albanian Front, mention is made of Sub-Lieutenant of Cavalry Dimitrios Kardamylas of Antonios, shot as he was pursuing the enemy mounted, first of all, at Frasari in December 1940, and Sergeant Dimitrios Acheilias of Savvas, a native of Lychnos, captured and executed by the Italians at the position of Kore Tupen in November 1940.

Mussolini, although during the five months of the war he replaced four commanders-in-chief, and although he himself personally went to the Front repeatedly to inspire the men of his elite Blackshirt battalions — which together with his divisions attacked like enormous waves against the Greek positions — ACHIEVED NOTHING.

On the contrary, Commander-in-Chief Alexandros Papagos proved to be the most glorious military figure of modern Greece, for the Greek Army within 15 days of its counterattack, under the most unfavourable weather conditions, in deprivation and hardship, captured in the Northern Sector the cities of Korytsa and Bogradets, in the Central Sector Premeti and Argyrokastro, and in the South-

The Southwestern Sector Agioi Saranda and Himara — and not only that, but also captured 8,500 prisoners.

All of humanity watched in speechless wonder at the miracle unfolding, for all the states of Europe, large and small, had long since collapsed like houses of cards.

Nevertheless, on the 13th of April, wholly unexpectedly, a tactical retreat of the Greek Army was ordered across the entire Albanian Front, for against little Greece of 8 million another colossus of the Axis had attacked: Nazi Germany of 75 million — in order to aid its defeated and humiliated ally, Fascist Italy of 55 million!

To this end the German Army, having occupied all of Yugoslavia within a week — a country with triple the population of Greece — attacked with its Motorised Columns on the 7th and 8th of April 1941 against the fortified Metaxas Line, which despite its terrifying pressure it was unable to capture, but was forced to withdraw with very heavy losses.

Thereafter the Germans, bypassing the Metaxas Line, captured by a well-aimed manoeuvre in the Stromnitsa Valley the city of Doiran, and after a most stubborn battle neutralised a light Greek motorised division, entering the Kilkis region, from where they reached Thessaloniki, the surrender of which was signed on the orders of the unforgettable Commander-in-Chief Alexandros Papagos.

The Greek Epic came to an end on the 31st of May 1941, namely after the conclusion of the BATTLE OF CRETE, for the capture of which an entire month was required, with German losses on the glorious great island amounting to 4,522 dead paratroopers, 6,116 wounded and missing, 5,000 dead soldiers, and 430 aircraft shot down, of which 250 were Junkers transport planes and 180 Stuka dive-bombers.

THE OCCUPATION OF LEMNOS

By the Germans

On the 25th of April 1941, a historic and ill-omened day for Lemnos, the island's enviable rapid progress toward civilisation and the growing prosperity of the inhabitants of all its villages were halted.

The Germans, who had attacked Greece and captured Macedonia, Thrace, and the islands of Thasos and Samothrace, demanded by telegraph — delivered by a non-commissioned officer of the Royal Greek Gendarmerie on the 23rd of April — that the Commander of the Naval Base of Moudros, Rear Admiral Konstantinos Oikonomou, surrender Lemnos, threatening otherwise to bombard its capital Myrina and Moudros.

The Rear Admiral, after a brief consultation with his officers, telegraphically requested instructions from the Government, which ordered that resolute resistance be offered to the last by all armed forces on the Island, including the men of the Gendarmerie. These consisted of one company of soldiers, 35 sailors and 70 gendarmes.

Submitting to the explicit order of the Fatherland, Rear Admiral Oikonomou

ordered that the civilian population be removed as quickly as possible from the capital and from Moudros until further orders, and that the armed forces be placed immediately on alert. In the evening of the 24th, the Most Reverend Metropolitan of Lemnos, the Commander of the Lemnos Gendarmerie Sub-Division Major Argyrios Patsalias, the Prefect of Lemnos, and the refugee Prefect of the Prefecture of Kavala visited the Rear Admiral at Moudros with the purpose of persuading him not to offer resistance. During the meeting, to the importunately insistent Metropolitan, the unforgettable Rear Admiral Kon. Oikonomou was obliged to say the well-known words: "Your Reverence, stand to that for which you have been appointed."

At four-thirty in the morning at the Naval Base of Moudros, the sailor on duty was Angelos Glykis, a native of Myrina, who received a telephone call from the Sentry Post of "Agrilia", Sub-Petty Officer Ioannis Polytaridis, reporting that the sound of a motor vessel could be heard heading toward Bournias Bay. Glykis advised him to ascertain what it was and to report back as quickly as possible. Half an hour later Sub-Petty Officer Polytaridis reported that 3 to 4 suspicious motor vessels were entering Bournias Bay and that a large transport ship was sailing some distance from them. Glykis hastened to report the news to Rear Admiral Oikonomou, who ordered that the alarm be sounded immediately and that the squads of Varos and Kontopouli and the men of the Myrina Gendarmerie proceed quickly toward Bournias Bay.

At five-thirty in the morning Sub-Constable Sotirios Maronitis reported: GERMAN ATTEMPT TO LAND AT BOURNIA OPPOSITE KOTZINA HAS FAILED. SEND REINFORCEMENTS.

Half an hour later, in another telephone call, the same Sotirios Maronitis reported: "SECOND ATTEMPT HAS ALSO FAILED. SEND REINFORCEMENTS."

Three quarters of an hour later the same Sub-Constable Sotirios Maronitis: "GERMANS HAVE LANDED AND CAPTURED THE HILL OF SMOULA FROM WHERE THEY ARE HEADING TOWARD VAROS. WE ARE BEING SHELLED WITH MORTARS. OUR FORCES ARE SCATTERING."

At seven in the morning sailor Angelos Glykis heard German being spoken on the telephone, and therefore called upon Sub-Petty Officer and lawyer Konstantinos Roussen, who had knowledge of the German language, and who reported to the Rear Admiral what the Germans had said on the telephone. The Rear Admiral then summoned the wireless operator Spyros Marinis and ordered him to transfer the wireless immediately to Cape Agia Eirini, so that with Sentry Commander Ioannis Karantanis they would arrange to notify the vessel that had been ordered to wait at that position, and to embark with the wireless. Marinis, reaching the village of Kaminia, transmitted by wireless to Athens the news that the German attempt to land on the Island had failed and that Lemnos with its meagre forces was continuing to resist.

At about seven in the morning the Sentry Commander of Cape Agia Eirini telephoned that the vessel, after a one-hour stop, had sailed away heading for Mytilene and that at that moment it could just barely be discerned far on the horizon. As soon as the Rear Admiral learned this, he summoned the officers under his command and announced to them the defection of the motor vessel. Since no vessel was available in Moudros Bay, a decision was made to

travel by car toward Physini and Skandali in the hope that in those villages they would find a boat to cross over to Tenedos.

Unfortunately, a few minutes later the Sentry Commander of the Mylos Moudrou guard post, Emmanuil Kriaris, reported by telephone that a column of the German Army was spotted rushing from Lychnos toward Moudros and asked for instructions. The Rear Admiral ordered that the machine gun be rendered useless and removed from the Post, after which, summoning the Force of the Naval Base under his command, he announced to them that their departure had become impossible. Crushed, he then bade farewell to everyone one by one, and wishing for the swift liberation of the Fatherland, he abandoned the base followed by the officers: Lieutenant Commander Pamboukis, Sub-Lieutenant Ioannis Arvanitakis, and the Commander of the Lemnos Gendarmerie Command Argyrios Patsalias.

The sailors, departing immediately from Moudros by boat, disembarked at Nea Koutali. From there they went on foot to Pourtianos, whence via the path toward Myrina they arrived at Ano Zymata, where they encountered the detachment of gendarmes under Sub-Major Giannopoulos, to whom they gave all information.

The Rear Admiral and his retinue, being unable to depart from Lemnos and learning that German detachments were searching for them, presented themselves and surrendered. The Germans sent them to a makeshift camp at Xanthi, where after a few days they were set free. Unfortunately, in the month of July, wholly unexpectedly, the unforgettable Sub-Lieutenant and Harbour Master of Lemnos Ioannis Arvanitakis was arrested by the Germans, who hanged him after torturing him for months in every manner, inhumanely, in order to make him confess where he was hiding the wireless. The unforgettable Balabanis was executed, while Marinis was left free. Shortly before eight in the morning the Germans occupied Moudros, where they established a Large Naval Base, maintained until the end of the war. They also maintained on the island significant military forces of all modern arms, amounting to 7,000 men, with the distant aim of attacking Turkey. The detachment of the Gendarmerie of the capital Myrina's district, consisting of 30 men under the brave Sub-Major Giannopoulos, due to the great distance was unable to reach Bournia in time on foot. It therefore took up position at the 7th kilometre at the location of Therma to intercept the enemy.

After the first 20 minutes, the hero Giannopoulos ordered "Fire" and himself shot first the leading German motorcyclist, killing him. The 700 Germans deployed into battle positions with the obvious aim of encircling the 30 gendarmes. This manoeuvre forced the detachment commander, the unforgettable Giannopoulos, to order a withdrawal, thus managing miraculously to save his entire detachment. Through the bed of the stream that crosses Therma and along a path he led his men from the position of Ano Zymata to our farm "Petraideri", where they received an enthusiastic welcome and hospitality from our mother Chrysanthi and our wife Maria, who had taken refuge there with our three-year-old son Christophoros and our two-year-old daughter Chrysanthi, and with our partner farmer Konstantinos Skapetis and his family, until we sent a sufficient quantity of clothing so that they could move about as civilians. Several of them crossed over to the Middle East. The

DECLARATION

We the undersigned: 1) Corporal Sotirios Sotiriou, serving at the Police Station of Kastro Lemnos, and 2) Gendarme Emmanuil Voskakis, also serving at the Police Station of Kastro Lemnos, certify that immediately after the engagement at Therma, in which we also took part — as members of the twenty-man gendarmerie detachment — against those who descended on the Island of Lemnos on that day, 25-4-1941, knowing the patriotic sentiments of Mr. Leonidas Gerontoudis, we took refuge at his farm "Petraderī", located approximately seven kilometres from Therma, and that there we received exceptional care and assistance from his mother Chrysanthi and his wife Maria, who had taken refuge at the above farm because it was rumoured that German aircraft would bombard Lemnos if she offered resistance.

We also certify that the next day but one, Mr. Leonidas Gerontoudis, as soon as he received a letter from our Detachment Commander Sub-Major Giannopoulos informing him that we were all hiding at his farm, sent us twenty of his personal suits of clothing and many other items of clothing and footwear so that we could dress as civilians, thus placing himself in obvious danger — not only himself but also his large family — since the German forces were searching for our Detachment throughout the whole island, threatening at the same time through posted notices those who were hiding us with execution, and their relatives with exile. This declaration is given to Mr. Leonidas Gerontoudis so that he may hold it as the most convincing proof of his boldness and self-sacrifice on behalf of our Great Greece.

At Kastro, on the 25th of July 1949

The Certifiers: Signatures of Sotirios Sotiriou & Emmanuil Voskakis

(The two signatures are certified and stamped by the duty officer of the Kastro Police Station)

The unforgettable Giannopoulos, along with two others, escaped to Mytilene, while those who remained on Lemnos hid with acquaintances and friends until amnesty was granted to them as well. For the history of Lemnos, we note that we helped the unforgettable Giannopoulos, along with other gendarmes, escape to Mytilene with the assistance of the then President of the Myrina Community, the unforgettable Panagiotis Laskaridis, and the former refugee deputy Konstantinos Orfanos, while the Germans were searching every inch of the whole island for the Detachment.

The resistance that Lemnos offered at the innermost part of Bournias Bay took place under the following conditions:

The Germans, hoping that at four-thirty in the morning they would not be confronted by the Lemnians, arrived at the Scala of Kotzina fully prepared for a landing, when they received the accurate bursts of a single machine gun — that of the gunner Corporal Antonios Soumelis, a native of Piraeus, who continued stubbornly firing from the small window of the sanctuary of the chapel of Agia Paraskevi until he had so infuriated the Germans that they withdrew. Foreseeing where the Germans would attempt to land next, he changed his position and shortly began firing again, so accurately that he once more repulsed the invaders, who already had 8 dead and 27 wounded, transferred immediately to Thasos. The Germans then chose as their landing site the position of Samakies, from where they began firing accurately with mortars and artillery against Corporal Soumelis and the 27 brave defenders — who had by then arrived — of the weak and completely unfortified little island of Lemnos. So great was his heroism that those same invaders sought to publicly congratulate the hero Soumelis, who, although completely exposed, managed to escape and take refuge at the position of Kokkala and from there in the village of Repanidion. Hiding in the house of Theophanes Sousalis, he emerged shortly after to surrender to the Germans, lest they carry out reprisals against the inhabitants of Repanidion. Then, wholly unexpectedly, the senior German officer, bearing the rank of Colonel, congratulated him warmly in the name of the Führer before everyone in the village square for his love of country, his self-sacrifice and his heroism, after which he was set free to return to his home town, Piraeus.

Although to this point, we have narrated in detail the events of the German occupation of Lemnos — with the exception of the Capital, of which we shall speak below — we consider it appropriate to also include the relevant letter of the former Secretary of the Atsiki Community, Mr. Dimitrios Tzouvelekakis, who rendered the greatest services not only to his village over 30 consecutive years but also to all of Lemnos. His patriotic activity in every direction was unparalleled and his modesty a model for emulation.

At Atsiki, 11.1.1969

Dear Mr. Gerontoudis,

I wish you and your family to spend the New Year in good health, joy and happiness.

Before the holidays I received your letter and did not reply immediately because I wanted to gather more information from eyewitnesses. So I went twice to Varos where I managed to meet Mr. Grigorios Marinos, a former gendarme, from whom I gathered sufficient details which I am writing to you.

With love and regard,

Dimitrios Tzouvelekakis

"On the night of the 24th to the 25th of April 1941, one small steamship and ten motorboats full of German soldiers, estimated at 1,000, moored at Bournias harbour.

At four o'clock in the morning the landing began, whereupon they were confronted by the men of the guard post there. 8 German soldiers were killed, whose bodies they transferred to the motorboats.

Because the resistance was great, the motorboats as well as the steamship were compelled to sail away and take refuge in a certain cove where they began disembarking undisturbed.

In Bournias Bay there were three guard posts of 20 soldiers, slightly wounded in the Italo-Albanian war, headed by a Second Lieutenant, and 10 gendarmes headed by the Station Commander of Varos, Sub-Constable Sotirios Maronitis. These guard posts were those of Bournia, Kotzina and Agios Ermolaos, in each of which there were also 4 messengers conscripted from among the inhabitants. All three guard posts received orders from the Lemnos Gendarmerie Command and had been notified to be on alert to confront the Germans. After the German landing, the guard posts withdrew to the hill located in front of the village of Varos to offer resistance.

As soon as day broke, an aircraft circled at low altitude giving signals with flares to the motorboats, and accordingly the further movements of the landed Germans were regulated.

The inhabitants of the village of Varos had dispersed and scattered into the surrounding area and the hills, and since it was entirely unreasonable to believe that it was possible to repel the Germans, the men of the 3 guard posts were ordered to march toward Moudros to embark on the motorboat of Fountas, ready to sail to Mytilene. The force however dispersed and since nobody wanted to abandon the Island, each went where he wished. Thus, the Germans, undisturbed, occupied first the village of Varos, looting its Gendarmerie Station and destroying two cars which were transporting reinforcements to the guard posts. They then occupied all the villages, the first after Varos being Atsiki. There, 6 terrified Germans, weapons in hand and fingers on the trigger, occupied the Community office, cut its telephone connection, and asked rudely: "Is there Greek Army here?" Those marching, approximately 700, against the capital were confronted at the position of Therma, where one German was killed and another wounded. After the capture of the capital, the Commander of the Gendarmerie Major Argyrios Patsalias and the Commander of the Naval Base Konstantinos Oikonomou were captured as prisoners and transferred as prisoners of war to Thessaloniki. The other captured gendarmes and soldiers who presented themselves later were transferred to concentration camps at Moudros. These, after 6 days and on orders from the German high command, were set free.

"This is what I was informed from reliable sources and I believe that together with what I have told you on other occasions this should be sufficient for your purpose."

Apart from the information we persistently gathered on the spot from various inhabitants of the area, and from what the Secretary of the Atsiki Community Mr. Dimitrios Tzouvelekakis mentions in

his letter, we were also kindly informed by note from the former President of the Atsiki Community Mr. Papathanasiou the following:

"Dear Leonidas,

"On the day of the occupation, Corporal Soumelis Antonios defended with a machine gun. 35 were the German losses, which were transported the same day to Thasos. I know nothing more."

I greet you, Papathanasiou.

And by his letter, the distinguished Greek schoolteacher of the village of Repanidion, Mr. Konstantinos Valacos, the following:

"Dear Mr. Gerontoudis,

"The information I received from reliable sources about the German landing in Bournias Bay is the following:

"Near the cape of Bournias Bay, situated opposite the hill of 'Kotzinis', on the 25th of April 1941, eleven motorboats and one riverboat anchored, from which men of the German Battalion that occupied Lemnos began to disembark. "At that moment, however, wholly unexpectedly, Corporal of Infantry Antonios Soumelis, a native of Piraeus, opened fire with a machine gun from the latticed window of the narthex of the small chapel 'Zoodochos Pigi' [Life-Giving Spring], so accurately for three full hours that he forced the invaders to withdraw. "The enemy's losses during this first phase of the battle were 9 killed and some tens of wounded.

"His ammunition exhausted a little later, the brave Soumelis was forced to withdraw into the adjacent valley, while the Germans continued firing flares and continuous fire which caused no harm whatsoever. Shortly afterwards, however, they disembarked at another point of Bournias Bay called 'Samakies'. Such was the end of this battle. With the friendliest regards and ever at your service, Konstantinos Valacos"

At Therma the Germans, having been unable to find the gendarmes who had shot and killed one and wounded another, and being in a hurry to capture the capital, wished to carry out reprisals by executing all the men, women and children found there indiscriminately. At the most critical moment, however, Mrs. Lili Dalavera, a German woman married in Alexandroupolis to the well-to-do Argyrakis Dalaveras, by her boldness and self-sacrifice saved everyone. "Until yesterday," she said to the Germans, "I was proud of my origin; now, on the contrary, I prefer to die because I will be ashamed all my life that I was born a German. You, the brave German army — are you not ashamed to kill a civilian population that took refuge at these baths because you threatened to bombard the Capital? What have these innocent beings done to you? Come, kill me first, so that I do not witness your unheard-of crime, which will brand forever the brave homeland of mine, Germany. Long live Hitler!" Then the senior German officer, bearing the rank of Colonel, having ascertained that Mrs. Dalavera was indeed a German, congratulated her warmly and ordered the men under his command to set free all those arrested and to prepare to march toward the capital, which they entered in a state of terror at ten in the morning. The Germans who occupied the Capital and its suburbs numbered approximately 700 and first settled in the hotels, for which reason they first of all requisitioned the hotel ETHNIKON located on

the beach of the Romaic Shore, and subsequently in houses, in which they co-habited throughout the entire duration of the war with the families of the owners, the latter being obliged to serve them. The same day the inhabitants of the Island were ordered to hand over all weapons, not even hunting rifles excepted. Only the Gendarmerie was permitted to retain its armament. Movement from ten o'clock in the evening until six in the morning was strictly forbidden throughout the entire Island. Of the local authorities the Germans seized only the Harbour Authority. The other authorities were obliged to obey blindly the local German Commands and to carry out their orders of whatever kind.

During the German occupation many fortification works were carried out on Lemnos, in which the Lemnians laboured hard under the strict supervision of the Germans. The most important of these were carried out: 1) on the height of "Smoula" near the village of Atsiki, 2) at Leivadhochori, 3) at Therma, 4) in the plain of the village of Tsimandria toward the village of Kontia, where they installed 50 heavy field artillery pieces, and 5) in the capital Myrina and especially on the height upon which the Venetian castle stands. Others of secondary importance were carried out at many other points of the Island. Besides the fortification works, the Germans also built 20 guard posts at various coves or on small coastal heights, which they surrounded with barbed wire fencing. These, after the withdrawal of the Germans (16th October 1944), were looted and demolished to ruins by naive Lemnians swept up by the subterranean agents of communism.

These same naive Lemnians, who formed the force of the deceptive E.A.M. (United Liberation Front), immediately after liberation entered — breaking down doors and windows — into the houses of Lemnians who had not been swept up by the deceptive preachings of the communist leaders, and seized whatever they wished: livestock, barrels full of wine, flour, grain, legumes, poultry, etc., breaking and destroying everything.

The Communities, during the German occupation, were obliged to deliver daily to the German military authorities a certain number of pack animals, which were brought early in the morning in rotation and according to a community list by the farmer-stockbreeders of each Community's district. The Communities were also obliged to deliver to the Germans every morning a set quantity of eggs and to submit to the attention of the designated Germans a list of idle residents capable of working on various projects.

The men of the German guard posts visited every morning the animal pens of the nearby farms and compelled the farm managers (farmer-stockbreeders) to deliver a quantity of milk, not less than one kilogram per soldier.

The Elementary Schools and the High School of Lemnos throughout the entire duration of the German occupation did not function. They served for the billeting of the Germans and for the storage of foodstuffs, clothing, footwear, fuel, etc.

The German army that occupied Lemnos and all of Greece lacked a commissariat. The supply and maintenance of the troops

was secured after the capture of a village, city, island or an entire country, at the expense of Municipalities without distinction, Communities, agricultural, livestock and dairy cooperatives, merchants, landowners and private individuals in general. This barbaric drain was entrusted to stewards and managers who had under their orders also labour detachments for the collection and transport of the items received. The German officer and non-commissioned officer stewards and managers, through the Municipalities and Communities, compelled the inhabitants to declare the quantities of grain, flour, oil and legumes held by them, which they delivered in due course, when called upon, to the Communities, from which the designated German stewards collected them. For this reason, during the first year of the occupation, 1941–42, Lemnos suffered greatly from famine, mourning 200 deaths from starvation.

The urban population of the Capital suffered most of all. Almost daily many inhabitants of Myrina crowded at a short distance from the German field kitchens, and the moment the Germans threw out the refuse they rushed upon it to grab the peels of the peeled potatoes.

We remember the unforgettable Professor of the Lemnos High School, Solon Stamatiadis, who had come to a pitiful state through vitamin deficiency, going round the houses of the families known to him and begging them to give him 3–4 grams of oil, which he often drank on the spot.

The Lemnians, besides deprivations of every kind, also lived a nightmarish existence. Learning of the daily executions of the civilian population by German military detachments in reprisals for various acts of sabotage by organised secret Greek organisations, or for the concealment and sheltering of English spies in the rest of Greece, they did not know whether after a short while or on the following day they too would be led before a firing squad.

The most critical, nightmarish moments the inhabitants of Myrina lived for 48 hours from the moment that at eight o'clock in the evening on the 9th of July 1943 an Allied submarine, entering fearlessly into the harbour, fired from very close range three torpedoes which rendered the quay and the breakwater useless, caused significant damage to many buildings, and destroyed many German motorboats.

Fortunately, for this Allied action of the English submarine, the Germans did not carry out reprisals against the civilian population. The executions in Myrina took place near the chapel of Agia Varvara in the Androni district, where there is also a commemorative plaque recording the names of the following executed persons:

LEMNIANS

A. Triantafyllaros, G. Kouskousis, S. Bormbolias, G. Fouskoudis.

MYTILENAEANS

I. Makedon, D. Koulandris, D. Vouros, Th. Vouros, D. Karampassis, S. Stefanou, A. Makras.

CHIAN

E. Kopelos.

CHALCIDIANS

S. Katsaounis, A. Papalexiou, G. Chouias, P. Tzaras.

THESSALONIAN

S. Louizos.

ZAKYNTHIAN P. Kladis.

THESSALIAN N. Deligiannis.

LACONIAN P. Voudiklaris.

In addition to those executed, the Gestapo also proceeded to arrest many Lemnians, whom it held for one or two months in the isolation cells of Moudros, subjecting them to horrific torture, before releasing them under secret surveillance.

In June 1942, the following were arrested en masse: the then Justice of the Peace of Lemnos and later Public Prosecutor, Mr. Nikolaos Gavalas; the lawyer Mr. Emmanouel Konstantinidis; the merchant and landowner from Kontias, Mr. Kimon Keramidas; the small-scale industrialist from Myrina, Mr. Kyriakos Arsenikakis; Grigorios Vafeidis; and Vlastaris Stamateris from Pourtianou.

The person detained, beaten, and tortured the most was the arrested sub-corporal Ioannis Morogiorgos, accused in connection with the release of prisoners held on Agios Efstratios. He was arrested on 6.7.43 and released on 30.11.43.

The sub-officer and law graduate Panagiotis Voudiklaris, having served on the Albanian Front together with his brother, a Colonel of Artillery, sought to escape to the Middle East by boat with other Greek patriots in order to continue fighting for the liberation of his enslaved homeland. He was, however, captured by a German motor patrol vessel as soon as he departed from the islet of Agios Efstratios.

Those arrested with him were: gendarmerie officers Nikolaos Deligiannis (a Thessalian), Pantelis Kladis (a Zakynthian), Konstantinos Sigalas (a wireless operator from the Dodecanese), and Christos Makris from Agios Efstratios. Of these, Panagiotis Voudiklaris together with the first two were executed, while the last two were sentenced to life imprisonment.

But one year after the allied submarine attack, the longed-for liberation began to dawn.

One night in August 1944, a motorboat ran aground at a place called 'Korakia' in 'Paranisia,' from which Sub-Lieutenant Paliatsakas and four others disembarked, carrying two wireless sets. One of these they entrusted to the owner of the motor vessel, Captain Vasileios Giannakis, and the other to Antonios Antonaros, both residents of Kontias. Antonios Antonaros kept the wireless set for only eight days, after which he handed it over to the motor vessel's captain Vasileios Giannakis, who a few days later, on the orders of Sub-Lieutenant Paliatsakas, transported and delivered to Androni resident Konstantinos Balderanos in Myrina: the two wireless sets, 8 sacks of provisions, and some weapons. Kostas Balderanos sheltered and hosted in his home for more than a month during the German occupation the British wireless operator of the British Commando at Murtzoflos, Garry; while Myrina resident Athanasios Giouvanis hosted Sub-Lieutenant Paliatsakas. At this point we quote verbatim the account given to us by the forward-thinking farmer and stockbreeder, also distinguished on the fields of battle, wounded and decorated — the outstanding Lemnian from the village of Kaspaka — Eleftherios Koleros: *“At Cape Abelitis, to the right and east of Murtzoflos, down by the shore, a stranger met me and asked if there were any minefields or a German post nearby.*

When I told him what I knew, he said 'goodbye' and left. Four days later, one morning while I was gathering my sheep at Kapari (Opsomothiki), I found Panagiotis Katsikogiannis — who is married in Agio Stratis — the gendarme Nikolas Marinakis who was with the British Commando, Sub-Lieutenant Konstantinos Boikos, Sub-Lieutenant Manolis Bristinakis, Corporal Kostas Kapetanakis, and British wireless operators Garry and Cooper; and then I understood that the one who had questioned me at Abelitis was Garry.

From that day on I took charge of supplying them with provisions and was under their orders for anything whatsoever until liberation — which is why Boikos, who is now a Colonel, came last year to my village, to my house, found me, and we recalled the old days.

The Commandos, 4–5 days before liberation, moved and went to the Sardes district, to the location of Panagia, to better monitor the German withdrawal that had begun. During those days,



The one holding the cane is Eleftherios Koleros from the village of Kaspakas, a wounded soldier in the Greco-Italian War of 1940-1941 and a hero.

an EAM communist patrol stopped me and subjected me to a strict search so that I would not carry written intelligence to the Commandos. In fact, one day there was even a German with the EAM members, and they almost turned me back for fear that I was taking provisions and information to the Commando. Paliatsakas in the final days was apart from the Commandos and was staying at Androni with the wireless operator Palaiologos at Kostas Balderanos's house, and for this reason he was able to notify the Middle East in time that the Germans were leaving. The others, the EAM had cut off without them realising it, and for this reason I had great difficulty taking them provisions and informing them orally of events. The EAM members went so far as to remove my shoes to search me. The Commandos had a wireless set at the Opsomothiki location, at my sheep pen, 5 days before our liberation. The Commandos needed to install the wireless in a better position to more easily monitor the movements of the Germans, and the most suitable location they found was Vni,

between Katalakkos and Sardes. EAM, however, did not allow them to advance, and for this reason they remained at Panagia. Those who did not permit this were Manolis Xinias, Konstantinos Dinos, Lazaros Giotopolous, and their leader, the schoolteacher of Sardes, Vasdekis, the most fanatical of all the communists.

In the evenings we would go down to the shore at Abelitis and Boikos and the Englishman Garry would give signals with the optical device. Three times we encountered the patrol of Sub-Lieutenant Lefteris Paterakis, who was also one of the EAM leaders and who gave us stern warnings, despite being a classmate of Boikos. Today this Paterakis is a Lieutenant Colonel in the Greek Army. One evening when I was taking food to the wireless operators, I was caught by a patrol of Germans, Italians, and EAM members, all armed, and they turned me back to Sardes and I went to the house of my friend Dinos."

This key witness, the farmer and stockbreeder Eleftherios Koleros, narrated how Sub-Lieutenant Paliatsakas evaded the surveillance ring of the EAM communists in order to notify the Allies in the Middle East in time of the abandonment of Lemnos by the Germans.

Thus, Lemnos at 3 a.m. on 16 October 1944 received and welcomed the unit of the Sacred Company that liberated it, led by Brigadier Temple (British), Colonel Char. Tsigantes, Deputy Commander Themist. Ketseas, Major Papageorgopoulos, and Captain Loumakis.

They disembarked at Myrina and immediately advanced toward Moudros, where the Germans who had gathered were preparing to withdraw, while from the previous evening they had forced the residents of Moudros to abandon their village because military installations, warehouses, etc. would be blown up. Indeed, the explosions began in the early morning hours, precisely as the Sacred Company soldiers arrived at Moudros.

The Germans, learning of the Sacred Company's arrival at Moudros, hastened to depart as quickly as possible, boarding the vessels anchored in the Gulf of Moudros — armed with cannons and other weapons — and a river boat.

However, when the commander of the Sacred Company became aware of the Germans' intent, an order was given for the men of the Sacred Company to rapidly occupy the most suitable positions in the Fakos area and fire relentlessly upon the enemy. The fire not only halted their advance but compelled them to begin firing in turn with mortars and machine guns in full force. At that moment, Sub-Lieutenant Panagiotis Dimoulas fell on the battlefield, sealing with his heroic death the liberation of glorious Lemnos. With the fall of night, the river boat and other vessels were easily able to set sail and head toward Alexandroupolis. The following day, 17 October 1944, the Sacred Company captured 165 German and Italian prisoners of war, who had hidden the day before inside a fortification.

On that same day as the historic battle of Lemnos, in the eastern part of the Gulf of Moudros — between the Sacred Company soldiers and the Germans — a torpedo mine exploded that had been laid in advance by the retreating enemy. As a result of the explosion, eight Lemnians from Atsiki were killed and many houses collapsed

On the occasion of the liberation of Lemnos on 16 October 1944, the Sacred Company issued a daily order and, as a title of honour for the heroic Island of Lemnos, addressed the following telegram from Colonel Char. Tsigantes to the President of the Greek Government and the Army General Staff:

«17 October 1944 19:00 hours

From Tsigantes

President of the Greek Government

Army General Staff

After a 24-hour battle by the Sacred Company, the Navy, the Air Force, and the population, the Island has been liberated STOP. The people are celebrating STOP. Hundreds of prisoners STOP.

I propose:

The award of the Medal of Bravery to the Island of Lemnos STOP. Its action heroic and indescribable. »

Thus, without exaggeration: "indescribable." The return of the 80 victorious Sacred Company soldiers from Moudros to the capital was greeted with ecstatic enthusiasm. At that moment, slavery was trampled underfoot by the sweetly smiling liberty. At that moment, the hopes, desires, and dreams of yesterday's enslaved Lemnians were fully vindicated and realised. They were free.

But — but — but!!! New anguish, new nightmares. Communism. **EAM — ELAS — ELAN — EPON**

The curse of the 20th century — Communism — in all its vileness, unfortunately and wretchedly encompassed, among the provinces of Greece that had been insidiously, treacherously, deceptively, treason-ously — in a word, DISHONOURABLY — seized, also the province of Lemnos. The bloodthirsty slaughterer, the arbiter of the fate of a GREECE!!! While the people of Lemnos on the night of 16th–17th October slept the sweetest sleep, the sleep of liberation from the hardships of bondage, they were suddenly awakened in terror.

While all Lemnians groaned under the heel of the conqueror, this communism — philoslavic, sadistic, and bloodthirsty criminal — exploited with unimaginable diabolical skill the pure patriotic feelings of the Lemnians groaning in bondage.

It presented itself to the brave Lemnian people as a new Friendly Society, with four supposedly patriotic secret organisations: 1) The United Liberation Front (EAM), which in reality was a nation-destroying, dishonourable front. 2) The Greek People's Liberation Army (ELAS), into whose ranks were recruited those who were swept along by the deceptive communist slogans: simple workers, farmers, and very few townspeople; the cowardly and uncommitted Greeks; those who believed they would receive special treatment from the unscrupulous traitors to the Fatherland; the careerists and individualistic self-servers, to whom the traitorous agents of communism promised offices and fat rewards; and finally all the institutional criminals from the prisons of Greece, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and Albania. 3) The Greek People's Liberation Navy (ELAN), whose ranks were swelled by formerly poor sailors. And 4) The Pan-Hellenic United Youth Organisation (EPON), whose ranks

were swelled by many young people who did not imagine that it was a treasonous and anti-Greek organisation. The insidious and treacherous EAM, throughout the entire period of German rule, developed such treasonous activity in cities, villages, and islands alike, that it very easily seized all state authorities on the day following the Germans' departure. The cynicism of the agents of communism and the height of the shameless, most execrable treason by the leading chiefs of Lemnos is reflected in the following circular order by the leader of the communist traitors of Lemnos, Andreas Noulas.

This circular order, which came into our hands at the time when we were raising the banner of national indignation at the enormity of the treason by the social-communist traitors — at the time when we founded the National Organisation of Lemnos and published the newspaper "Voice of Lemnos" in which we printed it — reads as follows:

«United Liberation Front Regional Organisation of Lemnos E.A.M.

Kastron — Myrina, 15 October 1944

Atsiki

«Delegates of the Sectoral Committee are to coordinate with the Section Chiefs.

To all Sectoral Committees, Comrades,

The hour of freedom has come and the last unit of the German army is clearing out tonight.

As soon as you receive this paper in your hands, wherever there are no Germans, you are to immediately dissolve the authorities and, in accordance with the circulars, take power into your hands. Enemies of the People are to be seized immediately.

In villages where there are still Germans, you are to go on alert and immediately after their departure carry out the same without delay.

In the morning, as soon as you confirm that the Germans have definitively abandoned the Island, you are to proceed to the day's celebration in accordance with the measures prescribed in previous circulars, but your descent to Kastron or Moudros is to be postponed until further orders.

We emphasize the necessity of the literal implementation of the above because, in all probability, according to our information, today an Allied forces landing is expected to take place.

We must therefore, pre-emptively, present ourselves to any units that appear in your areas as already-established EAM authorities and committees — they are to present themselves before them, greet them with all courtesy and enthusiasm, and assure them that order was secured thanks to the EAM revolution. Long live the People's Democracy

For the Regional Committee The responsible officer

Andreas Noulas»

The underground treason of the communists throughout the text of the above EAM communist circular order is manifest.

By use of the contemptuous word we have underlined, 'clearing out', substituting 'departing', they sought to mislead the patriotic Lemnians. They did not want the Lemnians to know that, as throughout all of Greece so too in Lemnos, the communists were in very close and friendly relations with the departing Germans, and that it had been agreed between them: the communists would at all costs keep the German withdrawal secret until the very last soldier departed, while the withdrawing Germans would make no arrests or executions of communists but, on the contrary, would supply them with abundant German weaponry — which indeed came to pass.

The more than one thousand armed EAM followers on Lemnos were all equipped with machine guns, light machine guns, grenades, etc. of German manufacture. Where did the traitors of Lemnos obtain these on 15 October, when neither had the Sacred Company unit yet disembarked in the capital Myrina to give battle at Moudros, nor had the Germans yet abandoned the capital and the villages? They themselves admit it in the above circular order, signed by none other than the leader of the Communists, Andreas Noulas, appointed as Prefect of Lemnos by the communist mafia.

The EAM followers were ordered 'to take power into their hands (in all villages of Lemnos) wherever there are no Germans.' This was a basic condition of the German–EAM agreement. 'Enemies of the People are to be seized immediately!!!' Who, according to the communists, were the enemies of the people, given that under German occupation all Lemnians lived in extreme poverty, and after the Germans' abandonment of the Island, all were poor and worthy of pity?

'Your descent to Kastron or Moudros is to be postponed until further orders.' This instruction was given because at any moment EAM on Lemnos was expecting 60 to 70 ELAS partisans coming from the islet of Agios Efstratios to sail to Lemnos. Evidence: as soon as these arrived at 6 a.m. on 16 October, orders were given for EAM members to descend from all villages to the capital that same morning to celebrate the seizure of Lemnos by the Communists — while the Sacred Company soldiers would be fighting at Moudros against the enemies of the Fatherland.

Indeed, by 10 a.m. all EAM members from the villages had gathered at the football ground, into which they contemptuously flung the disabled war veteran, now Lieutenant Colonel on the Honorary Reserve, Ilias Migkidis, who had been decorated on the field of honour during the Greek-Italian war and was held in great esteem.

At 10 o'clock, the parade began along the main street of Myrina by the rabble of the communist traitors, most of whom did not even know that the raised-fist salute they gave was a communist salute.

They carried a large red flag with a hammer and sickle and sang the communist anthem 'To arms, to arms...' as far as the harbour square, where from the balcony of the Prefecture, 5 speeches were delivered by five insensitive, hollow individuals, among them the most poverty-stricken in spirit, the prefect Andreas Noulas, to the shouts and cheers of a friendly crowd composed of Don Quixotes, Sanchos, feather-brained souls, madmen, and rascals — similar to those who years later would be recruited by the Trotskyist Andreas Papandreou.

'We must therefore, pre-emptively, present ourselves to any units that appear in your areas as already-established EAM authorities and committees — they are to present themselves before them, greet them with all courtesy and enthusiasm, and assure them that order was secured thanks to the triumph of EAM.'

The reader, delving into this last paragraph, perceives with horror the cunning of the intriguers and schemers, the conspirators of international communism.

What order would be disturbed by the unarmed, powerless, and starving Lemnian people, who — precisely because they were in this most wretched condition — were being subjugated once again fatalistically to those who throughout the entire German occupation had been insidiously working



Sunset enjoyed from the "ETHNIKON" hotel on Romeikos Gialos beach

toward their subjugation to panslavist communism? Fortunately, the Lemnians quickly came to their senses and quickly rose up against the communist traitors who had deceived them — from the very morning of 16 October 1944 when the newspaper 'Laokratia' (People's Rule) was circulated, bearing on either side of its masthead the hammer and sickle of panslavist anti-Hellenism, the emblem of deceit and brutalisation.

Two hours later, on the orders of EAM's 10-member committee, the newspaper 'Laokratia' was withdrawn, because it made no mention whatsoever of the Island's liberation by the Sacred Company soldiers, but instead exalted EAM and its offshoots; praised 'Great Mother Russia' that had defeated Hitlerite Germany; established Demotic Greek as the official language; threatened that the enemies of the People would be punished; announced that the land of Lemnos would be distributed; reported that people's courts had been established; and declared that all authorities had been seized by EAM.

Shortly afterwards, as people were wondering on whose orders the 'Laokratia' had been withdrawn, a great commotion arose and an unusual uproar disturbed the crowd gathered in the harbour square in front of the Prefecture.

The EAM followers, ELAS, ELAN, and EPON were welcoming the

ELAS fighters from Mytilene and those arrived from the islet of Agios Efstratios, sinister in both appearance and soul.

These were the men EAM had sought to bring to Lemnos before the Sacred Company soldiers. It did not succeed in this, however, thanks to Sub-Lieutenant Paliatsakas, who completely overturned the plans of the Lemnos communists, of whose activities he was always informed.

The high-minded achievements of these 'institutional' fighters were arson, pillage, burglary, mass executions, murders, abductions, and finally the forcible conscription of males from age 10 to 50 and females up to 45. The conscripted adults were enrolled in the ranks of the partisans (gang members) of ELAS and were forced to commit crimes in one way or another, being unable to desert. Nevertheless, many of those conscripted escaped, while many others found death in their flight toward freedom.

The Sacred Company soldiers, returning to Myrina after a 24-hour battle in the village of Moudros, having arranged the embarkation of the prisoners on the warship 'Ierax', proceeded in procession — followed by the nationally-minded Lemnians — to the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity (evening of the 17th), where a Te Deum was held. The entire population of the capital attended, as did all the communist political and military authorities of the armed EAM members and EPON members. After the Te Deum, the Sacred Company soldiers, amid the enthusiastic acclamations and other tearful demonstrations by the crowd, proceeded to the harbour where they embarked on the 'Ierax,' having installed a garrison on Lemnos of 17 Sacred Company soldiers under the brave Major Papageorgopoulos, the brave Captain Loumakis, and the brave Sub-Lieutenants Boikos and Perisinakis.

Following this, the island's inhabitants were divided into two camps: those who favoured the Sacred Company, and those who had been swept along as EAM supporters — the latter being mostly worthless and cowardly individuals.

For six days the ELAS fighters (the partisan gang members of ELAS) terrorised the simple village residents, extorting considerable sums of money, sheep and goats, etc. However, after the three-day pursuit from house to house and from village to village of the young Evangelos Keramidas — whom they sought to arrest so as to demand from his merchant and large landowner father some unknown sum of money for his ransom — Major Papageorgopoulos summoned the ELAS captain, called him and his men pirates and brigands, and gave them 48 hours to vacate the soil of the small island of Lemnos. They vacated it 16 hours after being notified, thus ridding the sacred soil of our small and powerless Greek island of their presence — soil they had come to in order to carry out 2,255 executions, based on a list of proscribed 'enemies of the people,' to pillage and burn the villages as they had done throughout the rest of Greece — and then, on departure, to carry off plunder and conscripts... those brave men of the... glorious ELAS. From 17 October, Lemnos had two garrison commands: that of the Sacred Company and that of ELAS, both housed in buildings situated on the beach of 'Romeikos Gialos.' On the first, the Sacred Company soldiers flew a large Greek flag, which the Lemnians gazed upon with pride.

The garrison commander of the partisan communist garrison was, until the day of the shameful flight of the 60 'pirate-brigand' ELAS fighters — forced into this by 17 Sacred Company soldiers — the revenue service employee Ioannis Vourdoumpakis.

On 24 October of the same month, the Greek Navy warship 'Ierax' sailed into Myrina harbour, carrying the Government representative and minister Pastras, the illustrious commander of the submarine 'Papanikolis,' Milton Iatridis, the British Major Sot, and other senior Greek and British officers, whose disembarkation was prohibited for one and a half hours by the thousand armed EAM Lemnians and the sixty vile ELAS partisans, gathered from the harbour square to the quay and systematically howling 'let the colonialists go,' 'we don't want masters,' and similar slogans. They waved and shook communist red flags, because their chosen masters were the panslavists — which is why they sang the hymn of the communist Greek traitors 'to arms, to arms' in order to murder in peacetime, with unimaginable hatred, their brothers and sisters — that is, THE THRICE-GLORIOUS BUT RAGGED POST-WAR GREECE — as was manifestly proved by the civil war of mutual destruction that followed for four years.

At that moment, when comic-tragic scenes were unfolding — for apart from the insults hurled amid the cheers for the Allies on the one side, and the cheers for Russia on the other — we also saw a wandering peanut vendor cheering for communism and beating an unarmed gendarme who was bare-headed, ragged, and hungry.

This scene did not leave us indifferent. On the contrary, we intervened to stop this unseemly behaviour, after which we reported the incident to Major Papageorgopoulos. The commander of the Sacred Company and of Lemnos, incensed, imposed order in a thunderous voice and threatened that if this abnormal situation continued, he would impose martial law on Lemnos as well.

On hearing the threat of the brave leader of the Sacred Company soldiers, the deceivers fell silent as if anaesthetised. Such order and absolute quiet prevailed that Major Papageorgopoulos informed the dignitaries through Sub-Lieutenant Boikos to disembark, which they duly did.

We, eyewitnesses of the events that unfolded, and certain that after the Te Deum that would follow, no one would deliver a speech or address the representatives of the Greek Government and the Allies, hastened to our house and took some notes. We then proceeded to the Cathedral, which was packed with crowds, and after making great effort to approach the officiating priest, the Reverend Papanikolas, we told him that after the conclusion of the Te Deum, if no one else was to speak, 'we would like to say a few patriotic words.' Papanikolas, taken aback, asked us: 'Patriotic EAM words?' 'Not EAM treasonous words, but patriotic Greek words.' 'Who are you, Mr. Gerontoudis?' 'Yes, it is I.' 'Ah, very well, very well, bravo, bravo, I will tell you when; wait.' Since, however, we had never in our entire life previously delivered a speech, when we heard the late Papanikolas saying 'and now Mr. Gerontoudis will deliver the commemorative address of the day,' we were literally paralysed. We were thunderstruck, and as a result stood rooted to the spot. In the church, a murmur and commotion arose, as we were being guided — almost dragged — by the congregants to the spot from which we were expected to speak. Fortunately, the clouds soon dispersed and calm returned.

When we saw the dignitaries and congregation looking toward us, we invoked the help of the Almighty and said what we said, without of course remembering what we actually said. An undeniable fact, however, is that what we sought to achieve, we achieved beyond all expectation and in full measure. The unrestrained enthusiasm of our fellow citizens was expressed not only through cheers and applause, but also through thunderous stamping in the women's gallery — at which point the British Major Sot asked the late Milton Iatridis standing beside him what had caused this explosion of such great enthusiasm from the congregation. When he learned that the crowd was cheering, applauding, and stamping in favour of 'our small but glorious Greece,' 'of the King of Victory, George II,' 'of free and glorious Lemnos,' and of 'our great British and American allies,' he himself applauded enthusiastically for some time, together with all the dignitaries. But the crowd's enthusiasm was not limited to these expressions. It reached the point of lifting and carrying on their shoulders the illustrious Iatridis and the British Major Sot all the way to the harbour, where from the Prefecture balcony, truly patriotic speeches were delivered on the occasion of the island of Lemnos's liberation.

To further strengthen the Hellenic sentiment of our fellow citizens, we placed shortly afterwards in the two fine display windows of our shop — which had been requisitioned by the Germans and used as a warehouse throughout the war — two large portraits of the late King George II and the late Ioannis Metaxas.

Many could not believe their eyes. As for the ELAS partisans passing in front of our shop, some cast threatening glances inside to make themselves known to us; others, bolder but cowardly, threatened us by placing their bloodstained hand on the hilt of their 'knife,' saying 'Hey, you... Hey, you little one...'. Then everyone, without exception, acknowledged that our endeavour to demonstrate to the senior Greek and British officials that the underground communism had swept the Lemnians into EAM's ranks through deceit and cunning — at the moment when outside the church were lined up 60 fully armed ELAS fighters against 17 unarmed Sacred Company soldiers inside the church, and while one thousand EAM members stood on alert, ready to arm themselves with weapons of German origin — was a desperate act of daring, and as such it will remain unforgettable.

On 28 October, a motor vessel sailed into the harbour carrying a unit of the Greek naval detachment, whose disembarkation the communist authorities prohibited — compelling it under threat of three machine guns, one of which had been placed on the terrace of the National Bank's branch — to lower the Greek flag flying from its mast! It was the brave men who had fought the Italians and Albanians — Ioannis Dimitriadis (or Ladas), Efstratios Louizos, and Ioannis Karagiannis — who came running to inform us, and together we went to the headquarters of the Sacred Company where we reported what had happened to Captain Georgios Loumakis, who quickly rose and with a swift step made his way to the harbour entirely unarmed. In the square, two armed EAM members told him they had orders to prevent anyone from approaching the motor vessel. The hero Loumakis disdainfully moves one aside to the right and the other to the left, and upright with a

steady step reaches the quay, from where he orders the sailors to raise the Greek flag and disembark. At that point the majority of the swept-along Lemnians of the capital tore off and trampled upon the armband insignia they wore as EAM supporters.

On 20 October 1944, we were called upon by the late Ioannis Varvaris of Platy, who enthusiastically informed us that the residents of his village were willing and ready to enrol in the patriotic association of whose founding we had spoken a few days earlier. At that point, and because the Platy residents had come exclusively for this purpose, we asked for writing paper from the long-serving President of the Platy Community, the late Ioannis Varvaris, who readily gave us paper from an accounting book; and having named the organisation the 'NATIONAL ORGANISATION OF LEMNOS' (E.O.L.) — the first of all National Organisations in Greece — we began the enrolment. The subsequent voluntary enrolment of more than 2,300 EOL members in all villages of the Island saved Lemnos. The communists were halted and Lemnos could breathe again.

A few days later, the Vice-President of the Government Georgios Bourdaras came to the Island, who was visited en corps by the Administrative Council of the Union under the then President Mr. Emm. Konstantinidis; the members of the Council having consented that at the audience, the Prefect, leader of the Lemnos communists, Andreas Noulas, should also be present.

To the pleas and entreaties of Minister Bourdaras that we endure for some time, accepting Andreas Noulas as Prefect as a guarantor of order, the President of E.O.L. Mr. Emmanouel Konstantinidis stated that Andreas Noulas was wholly unqualified for such a position; while we, in our capacity as General Secretary thereof, stated plainly that the self-appointed Prefect of Lemnos who was present was the one person who could not guarantee order, because instead of surrendering all of EAM's weapons as he had promised, he had surrendered only the useless ones, having concealed the German-origin weaponry; and that order would not be disturbed in the least if a different person were appointed from among the nationally-minded Lemnians.

Minister Bourdaras insisting — because 'political reasons and reasons of expediency demanded this' — we also insisted, emphasising that since Lemnos, as had been manifestly proven, was not communist, the leader of the communists had no place in the Lemnos Prefecture; after which we withdrew without even bidding him farewell.

Through the National Organisation of Lemnos, first as its General Secretary and later as its President, we developed all the national activity we were able to. We visited all villages without exception, in order to bolster the morale and Greek feeling of our fellow citizens, which was flagging most in the mountain villages of Katalakkos, Sverdia, Sardes, Kornos, and Kaspaka — in one of which, Sardes, the residents had even proceeded to the distribution of land! Simultaneously we sent also propagandists, including lawyers, with Athenian newspapers, since on Lemnos only communist publications were issued — the 'Laokratia' and the 'Eleftheri Lemnos' — Mr. Emm. Konstantinidis's newspaper 'Lemnos' having appeared in April 1945. From that point on, with the arrest and exile of some twenty fanatical cadres and agents of EAM, among whom was included their leader Andreas Noulas, Lemnos could breathe again. Later, after the return of the exiles, the handover of the island's

garrison at the end of November by the Sacred Company soldiers to the ETHNOFYLAKI (National Guard) constituted under Law 17/1944, and the recall of the Lemnos Prefect Dimitrios Papadopoulos — who had displayed remarkable national activity — to Mytilene to offer his invaluable services there as General Secretary of the General Administration of the Aegean Islands, we threw ourselves into our well-known journalistic struggle and on 30 December 1945 our first newspaper 'Voice of Lemnos' was published and circulated, as the organ of the nationally-minded Lemnians, despite our financial impasse and great family obligations.

The publication of the 'Voice of Lemnos' was greeted with relief in all villages of the Island, and its multi-faceted struggles served Lemnos greatly, which was finally freed from the circulation of the two treasonous publications.

The 'Voice of Lemnos' delivered decisive blows against the satanic communist leadership, which it ultimately annihilated — despite the relentless slander directed against us as its publisher and director, and the distortion of every truth to the detriment of the Lemnians.

For the historical record we set out certain excerpts from the columns of the treasonous communist publications 'Laokratia' and 'Eleftheri Lemnos,' from which the discerning reader will easily be able to form his own correct opinion regarding the extent to which the NATIONAL ORGANISATION OF LEMNOS on the one hand, and our newspaper 'VOICE OF LEMNOS' on the other, contributed to Lemnos's liberation from the communist treasonous and criminal mafia.

«LAOKRATIA» 19–8–1945

Organ of the Regional Committee of the Communist Party of Greece, Province of Lemnos

"The gang of monarcho-fascist scum Gerontoudis, Dimadis, Polytaridis, Laskaridis and Company, in close collaboration with the official authorities and especially with the incomparable and one-of-a-kind Prefect Papadopoulos, continues its criminal work constantly sending new democratic citizens to prison. Those detained so far have reached the number of 19; in the meantime, the gang's new lists are being compiled and new arrests are expected. Let the democratic citizens who heard these EOL scum speaking of Democracy and Socialism understand their aims and programme... Those unjustly arrested and without charge were comrades Kostas Koukourakis, Stavros Pseftakis, and Giorgos Zafiropoulos. »

«Eleftheri Lemnos» 23–10–1945

"...On our island there exists and operates, from the day after our liberation, an organisation that wants to present itself as the National Organisation of Lemnians 'E.O.L.' What is this organisation? They are thieves in the manner of Victor Hugo, presenting themselves after the victors. Collaborators, traitors, and cooperators with the fascist conqueror, united by common hatred and common interest, who joined hands and founded the EOL organisation. We will not concern ourselves with these little men because essentially, they do not interest us. But this organisation, the supposedly National one that in reality represents no one except a few known base and anti-popular types, has become a real public danger. Of course, in any other circumstance this mafia would be in prison. Or at the least it would be harmless and unable to harm honest people. Unfortunately, today things are not this way. There is such anarchy and general decomposition of the present Greek State

that it has come to the point where the signature of a Leonidas Gerontoudis or an Apostolos Papadopoulos carries such weight as to appoint and dismiss civil servants, slander, intrigue, and send to prison every honest person who disagrees with their ideas. These people essentially govern the place today. Alas, this is where the post-December State of Law and Order has brought us. We publish in another column their latest achievement. It was not enough that they committed crimes once; they continue without hesitation their abominable work.

The Lemnian people must know of the cowardly actions of these dark individuals; they must know that the National Organisation of Lemnians E.O.L. is a gang of common adventurers whose goal is their own dark self-interest, and whose means of prevailing are lies, intrigue, slander, and every other dishonesty.» From the second page of the same treasonous publication:

"The EOL — nest of traitors, collaborators, and fraudsters — enraged at their failure to besmirch and destroy the protagonists of the resistance of our island, continues its dark criminal work in Mytilene, trying with the help of Prefect Papadopoulos to muddy the waters again and achieve anew the arrest of our fighters and the non-release of its 4 existing victims."

Newspaper «LAOKRATIA», 12–12–1945

"The staging of the weapons affair. Frenzied attempt to incriminate innocent citizens. A secret report by EOL. Light in the darkness:

We publish below a report by the dark mafia of E.O.L. to the Public Prosecutor of the Court of First Instance of Mytilene. Its publication reveals the behind-the-scenes actions of the people of the black front and the frenzied attempt to decapitate the democratic movement of our island by sending its cadres to prison with false sworn testimonies and perjuries.

NATIONAL ORGANISATION OF LEMNOS - PROTOCOL NO. 38

Kastron, Lemnos, 15–9–1945

TO: The Public Prosecutor of the Court of First Instance, Mytilene

In continuation of our previous report and following your document no. 2072, to which we replied that any action on our part was superfluous, we have the honour to inform you of the following:

One of those recently released, as accused of possession of weapons etc., the teacher Emm. Voulalas, requests — as we are reliably informed — that the following be examined as defence witnesses: the priest Pan. Kefalas, Grig. Batalidis, Nikolaos Kefalas, Konstantinos Mavrakis, and Athan. Zeimpekis — all EAM supporters with the exception of the priest.

This action of his, carried out on the suggestion of the EAM leadership of Lemnos, has the aim of misleading Greek justice through false sworn witness testimonies.

Bringing this to your attention, we have the honour of informing you also that, based on reports from reliable witnesses, eight hand grenades were present in a drawer of a table at the Club on 16/1/1945, and that when they vacated the premises, the grenades were taken for safekeeping by Konstantinos Mavrakis, proposed as a witness by Voulalas. The release of teacher Emm. Voulalas without referral to trial will cause unrest in the village, since some will receive him gladly and others the opposite.

With exceptional respect, The President

Leonidas Gerontoudis

The General Secretary Papadopoulos"

Newspaper «Lemnos», 13–12–1944

By Mr. Emmanouel Konstantinidis. E.O.L.: It is announced that in Lemnos an organisation has been established which aims: 1) To instil among the People respect for the authority of the country's Government through discipline and submission to the laws and orders of the authorities. 2) To unite all the inhabitants of Lemnos in a common effort toward consolidating order and averting any danger of unrest or conflict. And 3) To make every effort so that these principles prevail throughout all of Lemnos through appropriate public enlightenment by legitimate and peaceful means. Because this is the aim of the National Organisation of Lemnos (E.O.L.), it invites all inhabitants to participate regardless of party affiliation, provided they are not subversive elements or habitual troublemakers. The E.O.L. organisation fully recognises the right of its enrolled members to hold any view on political and social matters. Only in this way will there be hope that all the problems arising from the harsh bondage will be resolved and matters arranged, so that the real freedoms of the people are safeguarded — those which are certainly not those imposed by the few upon the many by force. We pursue our freedom while respecting the freedom of others and we demand that others too respect ours."

Newspaper «Lemnos», 16–1–1945

E.O.L. has conquered Lemnos. There are villages covered entirely by the organisation and districts where very few have remained outside it. But why has this peaceful organisation taken such hold? Those who know well the mentality of the Lemnians will not need much effort to find the reasons. In our view, the following contributed to the expansion of this organisation:

1) The excesses that occurred in the first days by some responsible and irresponsible EAM members, which initially alienated the entire population of the island.

2) The truly liberal E.O.L. organisation, which is not concerned with the political views or ideology of its members and which seeks only to strengthen the idea of the state through full law-abidingness and to oppose anyone who might attempt to disturb public order and peace.

3) The great majority of EAM members joined E.O.L., believing that just as during the German occupation they fulfilled their duty faithfully to the homeland, so today they fulfil it by joining an organisation that condemns violence and is characterised by absolute liberty and equality.

These are the most important reasons that moved the naturally conservative Lemnians to rush — through their active participation — to support the work of the organisation whose spirit sprang from their own disposition.

Those foreign to the mentality and psychology of the place — as are the writers of 'Eleftheri Lemnos' and 'Laokratia' — may wonder how this comes to pass, and to justify things in their own ever-customary way, they say and write all manner of lies. But where works speak for themselves, words are superfluous.

From the same newspaper 'Lemnos':

'But why has E.O.L. expanded so much? EAM truly deserves to study this matter and to be convinced — its leadership along with its remaining followers — that the world ran indiscriminately to E.O.L. in order to strengthen the authority of the Government and to oppose all violence.

The peaceable population of the island has no intention of having violence exercised against it, and just as it respects the views of others, it demands that it too be left in peace with its own convictions. This is why this young organisation has spread across the entire Island.'

Newspaper «LEMNOS», 2–7–1945

E.O.L.

'Last Sunday the announced assembly of the members of the National Organisation of Lemnos took place at the Gymnasium grounds.

At the assembly, in which many from nearby villages participated, the President of the Administrative Council of the Organisation, Mr. L. Gerontoudis, spoke, who — having greeted those present — reviewed the recent period of Lemnos and the situation that had formed. He emphasised the need for the Government to be strengthened by all in its difficult work.

He emphasised the national claims and spoke out against those communists who deny these, in agreement with the enemies of the fatherland. We are, he finally added, children of our great motherland Greece. We are soldiers of peace and order and as such we must fully discharge our duty.

After the conclusion of his speech, the National Anthem was sung and all cheered in favour of the Government and our Great Allies.'

We confine ourselves to these few remarks about the National Organisation of Lemnos, which conquered the entire Island within a fortnight — reserving for the eventuality of a re-publication of this present book to expand in greater detail so as to include also those who hastened to the villages to swell the ranks of the nationally-minded Lemnians (EOL members).

The nationally-minded Lemnians of Myrina and the villages of Thanos and Plato enrolled within three days are, in order, as follows:

Panagiotis Raftopoulos, Ioannis Varvaris, Leonidas Gerontoudis, Stelios Nikolaou Tsimpouikis, Angelos K. Konstantoudis, Dimitrios Sounitis, Triantafyllos Sofantzis, Emmanouel A. Zarimis, Emmanouel K. Matthaiou, Sotirios Th. Tzanis, Theodoros D. Gialouris, Charilaos Th. Tzanis, Ioannis Th. Palaiologos, Vasileios N. Eleftheriou, Antonios G. Amorgianos, Georgios P. Georgoudis, Fotios A. Zarimis, Panagiotis K. Delkos, Paraschos G. Giannoudias, Ioannis G. Giannakaras, Antonios A. Panagiotaras, Stavros G. Prassas, Pavlos G. Tsaptsinos, Nikolaos Chr. Zafiropoulos, Efstratios Zografos, Stavros Valettas, Konstantinos G. Gravaritis, Dimitrios G. Kanaris, Pantelis Stamboulis, Fotios P. Arvanitis, Vasileios N. Drakos, Panagiotis F. Tzivelis, Dimitrios Danielidis, Gavriil Etmektsoglou, M. Zafiropoulos, Panagiotis I. Tzivelis, Lazaros Antoniou Papas, Efstratios A. Imvriotis, Georgios Ioannou Deligiannis, Georgios Perros, Christos E. Papazoglou, Nikolaos E. Papazoglou, Konstantinos Giannakaras, Ioannis Skopelitis, Eleftherios Tzaneros, Stavros Tsaptsinos, Hippokratis Doukas, Anastasios Lampros, Stavros Skopelitis, Pavlos Stallios, Georgios P. Kaliopitis, Dimitrios Tampakopoulos, Christos Zafiropoulos, Ilias N. Volianitis, Nikolaos K. Konstantoudias, Nikolaos K. Laskaris, Konstantinos Efstathiou, Nikolaos Zografos, Konstantinos Stamboulis, Leonidas Machairas, Christos Antoniadis, Velissarios Velissaridis, Konstantinos Katsikogiannis, Efstratios Katsikogiannis, Panagiotis G. Papadopoulos, Eleftherios I. Politaridis, Angelos Dimadis, Panagiotis A. Koukoutos, Anastasios Velissaridis, Konstantinos Katrakazos, Apostolos Mavropoulos, Konstantinos Mpourlioufas, Nikolaos Fragkoulis, Pantelis Pertsas, Panagiotis Laskaridis, Aristofanis Valavanis, Emmanouel Konstantinidis, Nikolaos Mpournias, Georgios Karavias, Nikolaos Karavias, Nikolaos Polytaridis, Ioannis Chamlidis, Kostas Papadopoulos, Kostas Agalianos, Michail Sougioultzis, Tilemachos Mamakoukidis, Christos Misiotis or Petridis, Andreas Nikolaidis, Konstantinos Vafeas, Stratos Papoutsakis, Athanasios Koukoutos, Dimitrios Chatzelas, Andreas Giannaroudis, Antonios Ch. Papoutsakis, M. Valakos, Adamantios Tambakidis, Theofanis Karavias, Charilaos Samaridis, Georgios Georgiou, Kyriakos Chrysochoïdis, Stefanos Ch. Nikolaidis, Menalaos Petropoulos, Nikolaos Dardanopoulos, Apostolos Imvriotis, Konstantinos Passadellis, Stelios Lekakis, Eleftherios Gkoutzidis, Theologos Exintaris, Athanasios Moutidis, Evangelos Vasileiadis, Georgios Valettas, Georgios Paterakis, Manolis Giannaroudis, Dimitrios Sidirellis, Dimitrios Karpathiotakis, Kostas Mamaliadis, Achilleas Vitounis, Emmanouel Kamiliaris, Chrysostomos Glykas, Dimitrios P. Skapetas, Nikolaos P. Trataros, Kyriakos Vagianaris, Evangelos Papoutsakis, Nikolaos Kisemlis, Emmanouel Konstantoulakis, Eleftherios Katsikogiannis, Dimitrios Pinotsis, Nikolaos D. Tiganis, Nikolaos Klouvas, Emmanouel Patniotis, Alexandros Takidis, Christos Valettas, Argyrios Anglias, Dimitrios Tiganis, Grigorios Karaiskakis, Apostolos Kopanos, Evangelos Emmanouel Manos, Nikolaos Charos, Ioannis Chatzistavridis, Ilias Kyriakidis, Ioannis Polytaridis, Michail Trataros, Theodoros Kasaitis, Antonios P. Polytaridis, Panagiotis Mpourlioufas, Panagiotis Moschoudis, Antonios Michailidis, Georgios Eleftherakis, Anastasios Argyriou, Ilias Mikidis, Nikolaos Konstantinidis, Archontis Chatziprodromos, Theodoros Patelas, Panagiotis Oikonomou, Georgios Kassaras, Georgios Zoumidis, Christos Mavroudis, Dimitrios Kassimis, Ioannis S. Trataros, Panagiotis Tsinopoulos, Nikolaos Ant. Mpountos, Aristeidis I. Kampouris, Panagiotis G. Kokolis, Nikolaos Chr. Fylladitis, Spyros Tellidis, Athanasios Troikopoulos, Georgios Vezertzis, Charalampos Pantelaroudis, Odysseas Chiotis, Nikolaos Zografos, Apostolos Gnardelis, Vasileios Giokos, Nikolaos

Chatzikos, Panagiotis — Elefth. Kirtzis, Antonios Tremoulis, Antonios Kontogeorgakis, Evangelos Korisos, Evgenios Eleftherakes, Spyros Diamantopoulos, Konstantinos Gagas, Apostolos Mentas, Athanasios Fousianes, Ignatios Simou, Christos Daniel, Georgios K. Papadopoulos, Georgios K. Zafeirakis, Ioannis Aikaterinis, Markos Turlites, Leonidas Tzanis, Ioannis Pantelias, Michail Eleftheriadis, Vasileios Lampsakianos, Georgios Michaloudakis, Ioannis Xirades, Stellios Daskalou, Kostas Velissaridis, Christos Evangelos Christofis, Charalampos Diamantaris, Georgios P. Papadopoulos, Ioannis Diamantaris, Georgios Ouzounoglou, Alekos Angelakis, Apostolos Polytidis, Athanasios D. Sakellaropoulos, Vasileios Kavvaritis, Achilleas I. Argyris, Vasileios Nik. Vasileiadis, Panagiotis Abraam Tsamouris, Anestis Char. Mermingas, Charalampos Moraitis, Konstantinos Papaioannou, Nikolaos Paraschakis, Theodoros Chatziantonakis, Georgios Kalkepsos, Vasileios Sofianos, Konstantinos Giannakoulakis, Kostas Paraschakis, Ioannis Giannikizakis, Dimitrios Paraschakis, Konstantinos Mpalogiannis, Antonios Stefanidakis, Nikolaos Georgantis, Grigorios Dollaris, Antonios Georgatzis, Georgios Arapis, Georgios Kokolis, Nikolaos Tsaousakis, Pantelis Karvelis, Dionysios Grigoriadis, Christos Samailidis, Michail Tellidis, Nikolaos Katsikas, Nikolaos Karanikas, Stylianos Sougioultzis, Konstantinos Angelatos, Panagiotis Karafilippos, Kostas Zaglanis, Klavdios Manousakis, Pavlos Mavridis, Dimitrios Sakellaropoulos, Panagiotis Konstantinidis, Panagiotis Kargas, Andreas Christakis, Antonios Giannakis, Christos Tilegrafos, Triandafyllos Dertsonis, Pantelis Gkougkounis, Thomas Aligounarias, Aristoteles Katsaitis, Alexandros Kyriakakis, Dionysios Vlachiotis, Apostolos Papadopoulos, Dimitrios Ntontos, Nikolaos Christakis, Ioannis K. Tartaros, Paraschos Kalkepsos, Athanasios Charites, Efstratios Ant. Louizos, Ioannis Vouniozos, Georgios Ftochogiannis, Ioannis Nik. Karagiannis, Kostas Polychronis, Paraschos Papaioannou, Christodoulos Kallinidis, Odysseas Peidis, Sofoklis Parisi, Ioakim Triandafyllidis, Georgios Sotiriou Karagkounis, Stavros D. Karagkounis, Emmanouel G. Garofallidis, Sotirios K. Kampouris, Nikolaos Takidis, Vasileios Limnios, Georgios Veizopoulos, Pantazis Pourniotis, Stylianos Kallinidis, Konstantinos Lampsakianos, Konstantinos Charos, Spyros Pergamidis, Ilias Etmektsioglou, Antonios Prodromidis, Apostolos Papadopoulos, Angelos Moschos, Neofytos Evangelidis, Panagiotis Eglezos, Vasileios Kampouris, Theodoros Mentas, Kostas Kampouris, Christos Kochlios, Athanasios Koutsogiannis, Eleftherios Chatzinikolaou, Dimitrios Vafeiadis, Nikolaos Karastamatis, Christos Gaitanis, Ioannis Stamataros, Nikolaos Kallimanas, Nikolaos Lampsakianos, Makatselos Panagiotis, Theodoros Paraschakis, Evangelos Daniel, Michail Doras, Panagiotis Fasoulis, Ioannis Kormpetis, Nikolaos Argiriou, Savvas Lamprou, Georgios Daniel, Christos A. Trataros, Stavros A. Trataros, Gerasimos Samiotakis, Alekos Gagas, Christos Th. Palaiologos, Konstantinos Th. Palaiologos, Nikolaos A. Dimos, Panagiotis K. Kamamis, Georgios P. Kamamis, Stavros Emmanouel Gkougkounis, Nikolaos Paraschakis, Menelaos Papaklonaris, Panagiotis Velissariou, Georgios Karagiorgis, Kimon Moschoulis, Ilias Kappas, Efstratios Stamatiou, Charalampos Sofatzis, Odysseas Zarimis, Ioannis D. Krounos, Evangelos Fylladitis, Evangelos Patronias, Ioannis Lettos, Dimitrios Skaliotis, Konstantinos Tzaras, Panagiotis Angeloudias, Charalampos Kalligeris, Ioannis Antoniou, Christos Sonitis, Nikolaos Pouizos, Theocharis Sofantzis, Georgios Katsikas, Angelis Giannakaras, Pavlos D. Sofatzis,

Charalampos K. Sonitis, Dimitrios G. Gkavnoudios, Charalampos A. Mamalikos, Athanasios Ch. Moschoudis, Gerasimos G. Gkavnoudias, Georgios D. Gkavnoudias, Panagiotis Lettos, Charalampos Giannakaros, Charalampos P. Sonitis, Triandafyllos K. Kalligeris, Panagiotis D. Klapsogiannis, Charalampos D. Sofatzis, Charalampos K. Sonitis, Charalampos N. Krikis, Nikolaos V. Kalligeris, Pavlos Antonaros, Nikolaos Mamalikos, Theodoros Mamalikos.

From 5 December 1944, the National Guard Corps assumed its duties in the Capital and in the villages which, until April 1941, had served as gendarmerie station headquarters, namely in Kontias, Moudros, Atsiki and Kontopoulio.

As soon as the Military Commander of the National Guard of Lemnos, Major of Artillery Dimitrios Karatheodoris, assumed his duties, he travelled to Moudros to collaborate with the Commander of the Naval Base, inspected the new National Guard Corps, and addressed its officers and men, explaining the Corps' purpose. After Moudros, the Military Commander visited the villages of Kontias, Kontopoulio, Livadochori and Lera, issuing the following order:

ORDER

«To all the Communities of Lemnos.

Following an order from the Minister-Representative of the Government, matters relating to the formation of the Community Councils shall be resolved by on-site intervention together with the Representative's Commander and the Military Commander of Lemnos. Until that day, no change shall be made to the existing Community Committees. Should any change have occurred as a result of a misunderstanding of the above order, it shall be rectified through collaboration between the civil and military authorities. As soon as circumstances permit, the appropriate action and work shall be undertaken jointly by the above authorities. The ambition of certain individuals may delay action in the interests of their communities and fellow villagers at the expense of the general good.

Kastron, 12 December 1944 The Military Commander of Lemnos Dimitrios Karatheodoris Major of Artillery

The same Military Commander of Lemnos, Dimitrios Karatheodoris, on 16 December 1944 communicated the following:

Military Command of Lemnos - Kastron, 16 December 1944 –

COMMUNIQUÉ

We hereby communicate, verbatim, a telegram sent by his service to the officer of FORCE 133 stationed here, Sub-Lieutenant Mr. Stratis Paliatcharas.

The Military Commander of Lemnos Dimitrios Karatheodoris

ANNOUNCEMENT

The following for general information:

1) British intervention was made solely in order to foil the attempt to resolve a political question by force on the part of the leftists stop. 2) The rumour that we are supporting fascism is absurd. We are now in the sixth year of the war against tyranny stop. 3) Despite their offers, we refused to use volunteers from right-wing organisations in Athens and have repeatedly disarmed many stop. 4) This struggle is not against ELAS but against small extremist groups. The prisoners belong for the most part to ELAS formations, but are organised on a Communist core stop. 5) We are determined to establish conditions so that the Greeks may freely vote on their future government. We are not concerned whether there will be a Monarchy or a Democracy of the right, left, or centre stop. 6) There are German efforts to divide the British people and the Great Allies stop. 7) This situation in Athens hinders relief work. Nevertheless, we are striving to organise relief work for the starving population of both sides.

16 December 1944»

With the Military Command of Lemnos assumed by the National Guard, the island was definitively freed from the shameful EAM administration. After a very short time, the remaining authorities were established as well: a Government Representative, a Gendarmerie Sub-Directorate, a Court of the Peace, a Port Authority, a Customs Office, and a Social Welfare Centre. Simultaneously, offices were established for the international philanthropic organisation U.N.R.R.A. (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration), the distribution of whose supplies was regulated by Law 388 of 1945.

Regarding its purpose, as well as that of the M.L. Organisation, their operation and their effectiveness in Lemnos, we publish below authentic announcements from their representatives and a related publication from the newspaper «Lemnos» by Mr. Emmanouel Konstantinidis of 9.3.1946, from the study of which the reader will form a more reliable opinion both of the effectiveness of the aid rendered and of the general wretched post-war destitution into which the inhabitants of Lemnos had fallen.

ANNOUNCEMENT

«The M.L. Administration is not a political organisation. It is composed of British and Americans who supply food, petroleum, pharmaceutical goods, etc., to be distributed fairly among the Lemnians.

Since the British and Americans need most of their ships and supplies for the war against the Germans and Japanese at various distant points of the world, the only supplies that can be sent to Greece are minimal and are limited to the absolutely necessary for agriculture, fishing, and the general return of normal life to the country.

Distributions in the capital of the island and in the villages are carried out by local committees, whose members receive no remuneration in money or in kind and offer their services voluntarily for the common good. The headquarters of M.L. is in Kastron. Captain Warren Paterson of the American Army is the officer in charge in Lemnos. Mr. Zacharopoulos (Government Representative) receives all supplies, and Mr. Exintares, as Chairman of the Food Supply Committee, has the general direction of unloading, storage, and distribution. Complaints about injustices in distributions should be submitted to Mr. Zacharopoulos or to Mr. Exintares, preferably in writing, stating the complaints precisely and indicating witnesses who can confirm their accuracy. Within the week, M.L. will distribute 150 drams of petroleum per family in Lemnos against payment of 15 drachmas. (At that time, 15 drachmas represented the value of one egg.) The distribution will last for a considerable period of time so that people can find the money. Small payments will be made in future for M.L. food and other supplies in order to meet the wages of employees and warehousemen as well as other expenses. Petroleum is sold by M.L. to flour mills and fishing vessels. Mr. Ntontos is Chairman of the fuel committee and Mr. P. Mpaktis is Chairman of the fishing committee. Fishing vessels that obtain petroleum from M.L. have agreed to sell all types of fish caught in the Lemnos market.

PATERSON M.L. Officer in Charge, Lemnos»

Newspaper «Lemnos», 16–1–1945

WHAT IS THE M.L. (MILITARY LIAISON — RELIEF SERVICE OF GREECE)

Composition:

«The M.L. has been selected from the forces of two of our Allies, the British Commonwealth and the United States of America.

Seconded to the M.L. and forming part of its strength are members of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Organisation. Within a relatively short period of time, the M.L. will withdraw and the task of assisting the Greek people in returning to normal and peaceful life will be taken over by U.N.R.R.A. (UNRRA).

The M.L. consists largely of British troops, but the responsibility for providing relief and material is shared equally by the United States and Great Britain.

Among the military personnel of the M.L. and the civilian staff of UNRRA are doctors, nurses, veterinarians, engineers, agronomists, and other technicians and specialists, who will act as advisers to the Greek Authorities and Organisations and will contribute to the achievement of the above-stated objectives.

Announcement

From the UNRRA Representative in Lemnos, Mr. H. M. SMITH:

«We have been informed that merchants from other islands are visiting Lemnos with the sole purpose of purchasing sugar, milk, and other supplies provided by UNRRA for the nourishment of the population. Although it is not possible for us to prevent the sale of some of these supplies by various individuals, we inform parents who have children receiving various foodstuffs free of charge that the sale thereof is illegal under any circumstances.

The foodstuffs are provided free of charge to both needy and well-off children alike, so that they may recover from the effects of malnutrition, because otherwise — and as a consequence of the malnutrition they suffered during the years of the occupation — even children who appear to be in improved health will succumb to various diseases in the coming years.

We have also been informed that some townspeople from Kastron are visiting the villages in order to purchase foodstuffs and resell them wholesale to merchants coming from other areas. In this way, the sacred purpose of the distributions is undermined and frustrated by the tactics of a few unscrupulous middlemen and traders.

We shall seek to apply strict measures, both against the merchants and against the parents, if we find that the above buying and selling continues.

We are hopeful that patriotism and altruistic sentiments will prevail among the merchants and middlemen of Kastron and the villages, so that they will not become accomplices of unscrupulous persons, and that the health of the new Greek generation will thus be protected. »

Announcement From the Commander of the Gendarmerie Sub-Directorate of Lemnos,

Superintendent G. Kordakis

«Rumours have reached us that various traders here and in the various villages of Lemnos are systematically seeking out and obtaining from poor families various foodstuffs, and especially those which UNRRA provides free of charge for children. This act, in our view, is criminal.

UNRRA provides these foodstuffs exclusively in order to strengthen weakened organisms and avert the terrible dangers threatening our young generation as a result of the malnutrition inflicted upon us, among so many other evils, by four years of barbarous occupation.

We urge traders to occupy themselves with other goods in the exercise of their profession, and to refuse to purchase these items even if they are offered to them, making clear to those persons and to everyone in general that if this situation continues, we shall invoke the intervention of the Public Prosecutor. » Newspaper «LEMNOS», 9.3.1946

CLOTHING — METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION «The Social Welfare Office, in accordance with the most recently established clothing distribution plan, has been entrusted with the responsibility of drawing up lists of those in absolute and immediate need of clothing.

The task is heavy and most difficult. The parish committees submit lists that include almost all the residents of their parish, on the grounds that everyone is in need. This is certainly correct, but not everyone has an immediate and absolute need. Many committees, rising to the level of their mission, organise the lists properly, so that there are very few complaints after the distribution and during the verification by the Social Welfare Office.

Everyone should know that the imperfect compilation of the lists is the fault of the parishioners themselves, because the Social Welfare Office calls on individuals from all social strata by profession in order to verify the equitable classification of the residents. Nevertheless, during the distribution for the Tsas Parish, out of 1,343 individuals who were registered as being in need of clothing, the Office — mindful of the directives given to it — was obliged to reduce the number to 662 individuals, producing 337 parcels.

From the various committees that presented themselves after the distribution, it was revealed that 12 families had been incorrectly given parcels. The Office has written to the Eparchy asking that it order the return of the clothing received by the said families.

Everyone should consider what work was done and what effort was expended in order to separate 662 individuals from a list containing 1,343 individuals, and that out of 337 parcels, only 12 were incorrectly awarded. And we must bear in mind that it is not only Tsas but also 34 other parishes. The clothing for another 4 villages is already ready for distribution.

For the parish of the Holy Trinity of Kastron, the list is so poorly compiled that, despite the Social Welfare Office's efforts over an entire week, it does not believe it has managed to identify, from among the 1,037 individuals, those who are in immediate and absolute need. It is certain that this is a difficult matter, but rather than request the return of 10 incorrectly distributed parcels after the distribution, the Office prefers to exert itself more, because it must be known to all that the Office's only thought and concern is how to achieve an equitable distribution. Precisely in order to facilitate the work of the service, the committees must rise to their level. Everyone must bear this in mind. »

Newspaper «Lemnos», 2.7.1945

A few days ago, we received the verified information from Athens that 150 bales of clothing and 3,500 pairs of shoes of various sizes were being sent to Lemnos. The information added that efforts had been made with UNRRA to have them loaded onto Mr. Erimakis's petrol vessel, which was in Piraeus, so that they could reach Lemnos directly. But UNRRA refused to have them loaded onto this vessel, on the grounds that Mytilini had been designated as the port centre of the Prefecture and they would be sent there by requisition, and from there would be forwarded to us. The administrators of UNRRA, however, do not have the experience that we have acquired from our illegal union with Mytilini, and they will find out that Lemnos, out of the 150 bales, received only 35, by the gracious concession of the Mytilinians, who naturally bless their own beards.

As for the shoes, we received no information, only that in the market of Mytilini shoe articles fell considerably in price — perhaps because the 3,500 pairs were given to our good neighbours. »

Distributions

From today, the M.L. Distribution Committee is commencing the distribution of foodstuffs to complete the month of December.

The following will be distributed per person against a payment of 10 drachmas, to be paid by all without exception: Wheat: 2 okades and 300 drams. - Sugar: 100 drams. - Biscuits: one small packet.

German flour: 200 drams.

M.L. Pharmaceuticals

On Sunday, an M.L. doctor brought 10 crates of medicines for the needs of the inhabitants of Lemnos and Agios Efstratios. These were received by the Hospital. A further 10,000 tins of milk are also expected.

But the Lemnians were very quickly, and sooner than their fellow Greeks, also freed from the spectre of hunger and all manner of other deprivations.

The grain-sowing machines of Greek manufacture made available by the Agricultural Bank of Greece during the month of July 1945 at the price of 11,600 drachmas — which Lemnian farmers purchased collectively — the long-term loans it granted to farmers, livestock breeders, market gardeners, and vine-growers, but above all the warm familial and patriotic interest shown by Lemnians living abroad, especially those settled in America, Egypt, Australia, and Limbe in Nyasaland, provided unexpectedly effective relief to the starving and ragged inhabitants of Lemnos after their liberation from the German occupation. And when, in the elections of 3 March 1946, the most loathsome enemy of humanity, Communism, was contemptuously expelled and driven towards the borders — the open communist embrace of Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and Albania, its launching pads and supply bases — Lemnos looked boldly towards its rapid reconstruction.

The greater part of the inhabitants, having recovered their morale and physical wellbeing, and having been persuaded that scheming communism operates on the principle of neutralising truth with falsehood, love of Greece with grim misogyny, nobility with thuggery, gratitude with provocative mockery, reverence with contempt-laden impiety, honour with dishonour, religious devotion with sacrilege, and the confrontation of its political or constitutional enemy with vulgar and unscrupulous slander — they manifested themselves in every way against it, so as to re-enter proudly the broad avenue leading towards Greek destiny and ideals.

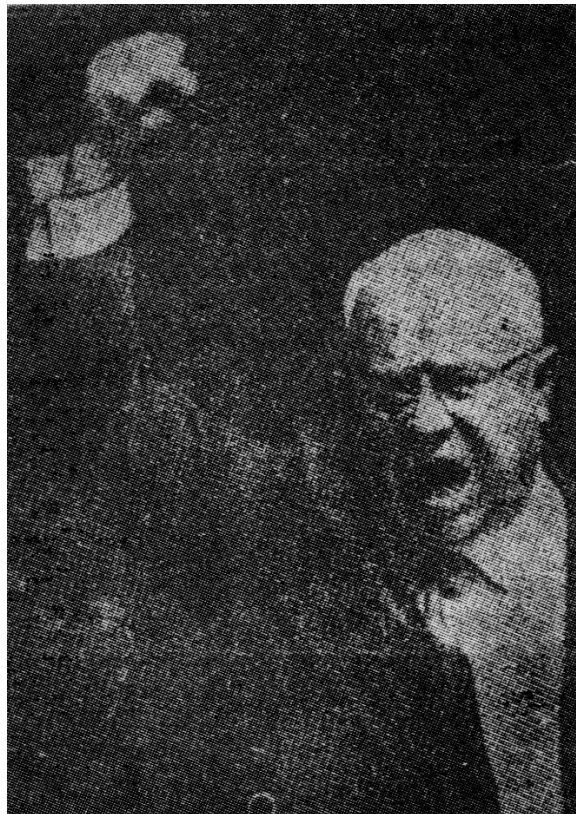
In support of this, and for the history of Lemnos, we record a few events of the era during which the most brazen traitors to Greece — COMMUNISTS and COMMUNISTS alone — shamelessly but also most disgustingly presented themselves, now as having resisted the Germans!!!, and now as champions of... People's Democracy!!!

Dear Editor, Please publish the following:

The publication *Laokratia* of 6 January 1945 states that the theatrical work performed by the amateur theatre troupe of Moudros was a creation of E.P.O.N.

Why is *Laokratia* so careless in its publications? Why does it call individuals who have no connection whatsoever to that organisation EPONites and EPONitesses?

Young men and women took part in this troupe in service of a sacred purpose — the repair of our Municipal School.



This is what communism is. More than bullying. The leader of the Slavocommunists threatens to blow up the Acropolis

We do not grant this printed sheet the right to call us EPON members, since we have absolutely no connection with it.

In Moudros, 10.1.1945 Respectfully, V. Vareltzis»

Newspaper «LEMNOS», 20.12.1944

Minutes of Meeting

«In Moudros of Lemnos, today the 8th day of the month of December of 1944, a Friday, at the

18th hour, the undersigned, constituting the Local Committee of E.A.M. of Moudros:

1) Emmanouel Grigorios, 2) Morakis Konstantinos, 3) Psarros Dimitrios, 4) Mitakis Efstratios, 5) Fotiadis Georgios, 6) Vardoulakis Eleftherios, 7) Varvalizos Pantelis, 8) Valsamidis Georgios, 9) Andreadis Ioannis, 10) Psarras Vasos, 11) Nikiforos Triandafyllou, and 12) Paximadas Nikolaos, having convened following the manifestation of the revolutionary tendency of the communist elements of the Organisation against the Nation, and having heard the proposal of member Morakis Konstantinos,

V o t e

1) They stand alongside the Government, condemning the Revolution as nation-destroying.

2) They characterise as traitors to the Fatherland the insurgents, who aim to impose the most brutal Communist dictatorship.

3) They make an appeal to all comrades to lay down their arms and not become instruments of SNOF and the Bulgarian Communists.

4) They characterise the Organisation as anti-national.

5) They demand the exemplary punishment of those responsible without any leniency.

6) They decide to dissolve it, as it no longer fulfils any purpose.

Whereupon these minutes were drawn up, read clearly and aloud, and signed by the following eight members of the Sectoral Committee of E.A.M. of Moudros:

1) Morakis Konstantinos, 2) Anastasios Psarras, 3) Georgios Valsamidis, 4) Dimitrios Psarros, 5) Ioannis Andreadis, 6) Grigorios Emmanouel, 7) Dardaganis Eleftherios, 8) Varvalizos Pantelis.

Mitakos Efstratios, Fotiadis Georgios, and Nikiforos Triandafyllou did not sign. Of the above, Fotiadis Georgios and Nikiforos Triandafyllou deem themselves not competent to determine the Sector's position with regard to events, and that this falls within the competence of the General Assembly of the Sector. They may, however, determine their position as individuals if called upon to do so. 4) Nikolaos Paximadas is absent from the assembly, having departed for Athens. »

R e s o l u t i o n

«The Community Council of the Community of Kontopoulion of Lemnos, having convened today the 10th day of the month of December 1944, a Sunday, at the Council Chambers, following the manifestation of the Communist Revolution in the State, and having heard the President state that today the communists have staged a revolution against our lawful national Government with the aim of bathing our long-suffering Greece in blood so that they may seize power by force, we are confident that the Regular Greek Army, with the assistance of the Allied forces, will very quickly compel these criminal elements to cease their unlawful action.

R e s o l v e s: 1) It stands unreservedly and wholeheartedly alongside the Government.

2) It expresses its indignation because the insurgents murdered Greek and British officers.

3) It demands the exemplary punishment of all those responsible and the immediate dissolution of E.A.M. and all its Bulgarian-Communist cells.

4) It requests the Authorities of the Island to forward this resolution to the Government, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief Scobie, and the Minister-Governor-General of the Aegean.

The Community Council: Arkas, P. Garofallis, T. Charanis»



Behold the fruits of the fellow-travelling of the two Papandreous and the treacherous communists. Hundreds of innocent victims of communist brutalisation.

Resolutions of broadly similar content were submitted to the Military Command on behalf of the Community Councils of Skandali, Kaminia, Fysini, Kontias, and Lychnos as well.

Newspaper «LEMNOS», 6 October 1945

«Dear Editor,

I have the honour to request that you publish in your issue the following letter of ours dated 19/9/1945, addressed to the newspaper «Laokratia» published here, in reply to its article published in the issue of 17/9/1945 under the title «The Shameless Slander»:

Thanking you, I remain with respect,

Dimitrios Papadopoulos»

«To the Newspaper «Laokratia»

Here, Kastron, 19/9/1945

In your issue No. 30 of 17/9/45, under the title «the shameless slander», among other untrue and characterless phrases for which the matter lies with Justice, to which we have applied, it is written that I launched a «slandorous attack» against P. Kotsalis and F. Iosifidis, attempting to present them as paid agents in order to undermine the people's confidence in the K.K.E., etc.»

By virtue of the press law and in order to rectify [the record], we request publication hereof in the same position and with the same typeface, together with the responsible declarations of the said persons appended immediately below, certified copies of which we are sending you:

R e s p o n s i b l e D e c l a r a t i o n

The undersigned Kotsalis Panagiotis, son of Ilias, hereby declares responsibly and in full knowledge of the consequences of the Law on False Declarations that I am originally from Agathopolis in Thrace, was a private employee in Thessaloniki, married to Anastasia née Alatsa from Thrace, childless, 38 years of age, that I have my permanent residence in Thessaloniki, at 127 Kassandrou Street.

I have been residing in Kastron since the beginning of 1942, working as Secretary of the Communist Party of Greece — Lemnos, and being maintained by it, namely in accommodation, food, clothing, and generally the necessities for the maintenance of one person.

In Kastron of Lemnos, 28 July 1945

The Responsible Declarant: Panagiotis Kotsalis

True Copy: The Intelligence Officer of the Garrison Command Konstantinopoulos Sub-Lieutenant of Infantry

R e s p o n s i b l e D e c l a r a t i o n

The undersigned Iosifidis Fotios, son of Nikiforos, hereby declares responsibly and in full knowledge of the consequences of the Law on False Declarations that I am originally from Sfindami of Katerini, was employed as a farmer, unmarried, 30 years of age, and that I have my permanent residence in Sfindami of Katerini. I have been residing in Kastron of Lemnos since November 1944, engaged in the profession of director of the communist organisation of Lemnos, remunerated by the Communist Party of Greece, namely in the form of food, accommodation, clothing — of which I have received nothing to date, dependent on the financial means of the organisation.

In Kastron of Lemnos, 28 July 1945

The Responsible Declarant: Iosifidis Fotios

True Copy: The Intelligence Officer of the Garrison Command Konstantinopoulos

In light of the above, anyone can judge who the slanderers are and draw the appropriate conclusions regarding the said professional directors.

Dimitrios Papadopoulos, Prefect

Since the two communist treacherous publications «Laokratia» and «Eleftheri Limnos» [Free Lemnos] incessantly attacked our newspaper «FONI TIS LIMNOU» [VOICE OF LEMNOS] and ourselves personally whenever they were published, we consider it appropriate to reproduce here the first article we published, along with certain others referring to the then disturbed state of affairs of the guerrilla war period, as follows:

Newspaper «FONI TIS LIMNOU», 11.1.1946

COMING FORTH

The most pressing needs of our homeland Lemnos — owing to its despoliation by the occupier and its abandonment for a year, left almost entirely to the often poor workings of UNRRA; the many things that are going badly; the few but wicked and vile red demons that have been plotting against it since its liberation; the irrational intensification of passions now raging among Lemnians as stoked by renegade agents of international Slavocommunism, who seek an all-Lemnian bloodbath — have compelled us to cast the die we have cast and to cross the Rubicon, reckoning not at all with the red, deceitful, relentless, and unscrupulous butchers against whom we shall fight for the salvation of our small and beloved homeland.

Its Administration, its Economy, its Communications, its Education, its import and export trade, its Industry, its Handicrafts, its Agriculture, its Livestock breeding, its Fisheries, its Antiquities, its Tourism, the now languishing Lemnian patriotic sentiment, and the political corruption of the many traitor-agents and other fellow-travelling party bosses acting against it and against the whole of Greece — we pledge to confront, regulate, and resolve one by one.

Coming forth on our political convictions, we maintain that the principles of political parties, partisan interests, ideologies, and beliefs must be set aside when the highest national interests are at stake or to be served. This is our view, crystallised over many years.

One man alone, he who «saw beyond the curve», the Master-builder of the Great Greece of the Treaty of Sèvres, Eleftherios Venizelos, stepped forward boldly whenever he judged it fitting and necessary for the interests of the Nation. His last words still ring in our ears: «The Greek People must live with its King. Long live the King. »

Had his successors been proud to conform to His words, we would assuredly not have been eyewitnesses to our most tragic political degradation at these exceptionally critical moments through which we are passing. And the evil continues. That a whole year has elapsed since our liberation without any progress being made on our many internal and external problems moves them not in the slightest. They are possessed by one single, persistent thought and desire: not to go out, not to be lost.

But the Greek People is vigilant. It is vigilant, it watches, and it grades according to its conscience.

The Greek People remember the Sofoulis–Sklavenas pact.

The Greek People knows that the present Government directing the fate of

Greece was supported by pan-Slavist communism under the condition that the most abominable enemies of the Greek Nation be released from prison.

The Greek People will not be surprised by a new Sofoulis–Zachariades pact. Both the persons and the things are known to it.

We, on account of this, submit one last warm request.

For just one first minute, let the image of Mother Greece appear in the minds of our politicians — wounded, with the rabid EAM-ELAS communists all around her, ready to «finish her off», so that they may then invoke their Greek conscience to emancipate them.

Let them prefer to go out, to be lost, rather than advance the Slav executioner of December. »

LEONIDAS GERONTOUDIS



DECEMBER 1944 - *The Greek communist traitors sought to present this terrible image to all of Greece.*

From the innumerable declarations of repentance that we received from repentant upright Lemnians and published in our newspaper «Foni tis Limnou», we reproduce here only three published in our issues of 2 August 1947, 22 May 1948, and 20 September 1947.

R e s p o n s i b l e D e c l a r a t i o n

«In full knowledge of the consequences of the Law on False Declarations, without any force having been exercised and in full consciousness, I declare the following:

At the end of August 1944, I was enrolled in the anti-national organisation E.P.O.N. and in the Communist Party, of which I remained a member until September 1946. During that period I developed truly exceptional activity and assumed the responsibility of Secretary of E.P.O.N. in the province of Lemnos. As General Secretary of that organisation, whose purposes I believed to be patriotic, I remained until September 1946, when I voluntarily withdrew. I represented the organisation at its Congress in Athens

and served as Director of the newspaper «Neaniki Floga» [Youth Flame], which was published in Lemnos for one month. Deep down I was always a pure patriot, and I withdrew from that organisation feeling first pangs of conscience and later remorse.

I am now endeavouring to forget this period full of anti-national activities in which I engaged in the mistaken belief that I was fulfilling my national duty.

Having come to my senses, I stand unreservedly alongside those fighting for the survival of our Greek Fatherland, and I call upon Lemnians who were swept along to also align themselves as champions of our Immortal Nation. » The Declarant Thanos Papadimitriou

R e s p o n s i b l e D e c l a r a t i o n

«The undersigned Valsamidis Georgios, schoolteacher, resident of Rossopoulion, hereby declares responsibly that I was never and am not a communist or a member of any anarchist organisation.

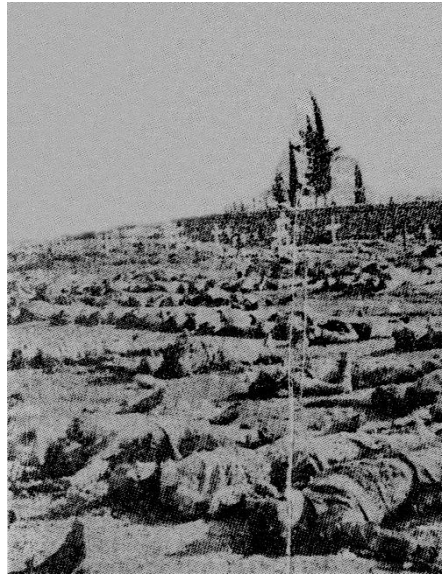
During the period of the German Occupation I was, like everyone, deceived into being a member of the then purportedly liberationist and patriotic Organisation of E.A.M. But afterwards, when at the beginning of December 1944, the treacherous aims of the above organisation E.A.M. were revealed and it became known that it was a creation of the anarcho-communists, I immediately hastened together with other members of the said organisation to collectively and indignantly renounce this organisation and withdraw from it, having devoted myself since then to the expression of absolute loyalty, and to assisting with all my strength the Nation and my Fatherland.

I regard communism as the destroyer of my Fatherland, and now, even more than always, I renounce it with abhorrence as the most loathsome and most satanic creation of the enemies of my Fatherland. » Mytilini, 21 August 1947, The Declarant: Georgios Valsamidis

R e s p o n s i b l e D e c l a r a t i o n «The undersigned Periklis Kavnoudias, son of Grigorios, class of 1938 from the village of Plato in Lemnos, hereby declares responsibly, in full knowledge of the consequences of the Law on False Declarations, that I never, neither before nor after the war, had any connection with the foreign-serving and treacherous Communist Party of Greece, nor with its hypocritical offshoots. I hate the communists, because these people of darkness and deceit do not hesitate to commit even the worst of crimes in order to achieve the establishment of the most hated regime of violence and tyranny. And today they have even reached the shameful point of openly making peace with the perennial enemies the Bulgaro-Slavs, being armed by them, and striking with their treacherous weapons our sacred Fatherland, working for a new subjugation of most Greek Macedonia and Thrace and a new slaughter of their martyred populations. I am outraged by the vile treason being perpetrated against our Fatherland.

I condemn and renounce with revulsion all the Slavo-servile treacherous organisations and parties, namely K.K.E., E.A.M., E.A.A.S., E.P.O.N.,

E.A., E.T.A., E.P., N.O.F., S.N.O.F., S.K.O., and I declare that I will fight until their complete destruction, for the benefit of our beloved Fatherland, which I love and for which I am ready to sacrifice myself. I request that this declaration be published in the press and read in the church of our village. » The Declarant P. Kavnoudias



From the cannibalistic massacre of December 1944.

In the lead article of the same issue of our newspaper «Foni tis Limnou» of 2 August 1947, we requested the deportation of those Lemnians who were then acting in an anti-national manner, as follows:

TO THE GOVERNMENT

Ministry of Public Order — Ministry of Justice

«Lemnos, aided also by its 400 young men fighting on the front line, awaits your deep understanding of its terrible socio-political conditions.

It eagerly awaits your order for the deportation of just 50 mercenary EAM-communist traitors from its holy and glorious Greek soil: 22 from its Capital, 25 from its 32 villages, and 3 from the islet of Agios Efstratios.

These constitute its blight, its national disgrace, the clique of the EAM-Slavo-Bulgarian conspiracy. Lemnos will no longer tolerate them. It sees not even one political reason for which it should continue to provide them indefinitely with the means of its own degradation. Its righteous desire to see reconciliation among its children — some of whom, having been swept along, yearn for the glorious embrace of their great Mother Greece — urges it to denounce to you directly 50 of its traitors, who have completely lost their Greek identity. Of these, 20 were released from prison by the criminal

measure of Mr. Sofoulis' purge two years prior, in order to continue with far greater hatred and fanaticism their anti-patriotic, abhorrent work in a remote place — the island of Lemnos — whose inhabitants venerated the great liberator Venizelos, who never wished to leave Greece without a King, just as certain exploiters of patriotism, together with the EAM-communists, putting forward the words "Liberal Party," sought during both the elections and the Plebiscite to mislead the Lemnians in order to capture their vote. **Lemnos Denounces:**

1) That, in accordance with the published denunciation of the Commander of the Greek-English Commando, Mr. Paliatsaras, the EAM committee of Lemnos concealed from him for 6 whole hours the withdrawal of the Germans, in order to notify by motorboat the ELAS fighters from Mytilene waiting at Agios Efstratios to come first and seize the island, strip it bare, drench it in blood, "slaughter" all those who were not their own, and conscript followers and non-followers alike, so that together with them they could fight against our brothers of the Sacred Battalion, who were coming to liberate us. Thus, for the vile treason they committed, Lemnos demands of you the severest of punishments, all the more so because THE CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES THEY OSTENSIBLY OFFERED TO THE GREEK-ENGLISH COMMAND FOR TWO MONTHS AIMED SOLELY AT HOW TO GAIN ITS FULL CONFIDENCE, SO THAT, HAVING LEARNED ITS SECRETS AND ACTIONS, THEY MIGHT STRIKE IT A DECISIVE BLOW AT AN OPPORTUNE MOMENT, as occurred when they learned that the Command would notify the Allied Headquarters of the Middle East by wireless of the Germans' withdrawal.

2) That the nightmarish EAM, having received German arms in exchange — certainly on orders from outside — did not attack the withdrawing Germans as enemies of the Fatherland, as the Sacred Battalion did, but greeted them fraternally, aiming at one thing alone: THE SEIZURE OF THE ISLAND'S AUTHORITIES, appointing as its Governor the leader of the Communists of Lemnos, Andreas Noulas, who, when called during the Greco-Italian-Albanian War to render his services to the great homeland of Greece, received a round-trip ticket and returned safely, either because he could not bear the smell of gunpowder or because the then-clandestine Communist Party of Greece (KKE) deemed his presence on Lemnos indispensable.

3) That eight days after its liberation, EAM, under the threat of 3 machine guns, forbade the departure of a dozen sailors of the glorious Royal Navy, because the Greek Blue-and-White flag was flying from the mast of a motorboat — a flag which the sailors were compelled under threat of machine guns to haul down.

4) That on the day of Lemnos's liberation, EAM issued and circulated the communist-leaning newspaper "Laokratia" (People's Rule) adorned with hammer-and-sickle emblems on both sides of its masthead, without devoting a single word to the island's liberation.

5) That the leadership of EAM on Lemnos was composed of ten outsiders and not of Lemnians, for the easier seizure of its authorities.

To the above, if we add countless other things — such as the discovered evidence and documents, the 60,000,000 drachmas which they receive each month from a committee of the Comitato based

in Thessaloniki — we arrive at the conclusion that Lemnos cannot be cured of this nation-destroying microbe unless it is freed from the 50 silver-purchased agents of the Bulgarian Comitato. For their demonstrably anti-national activities, Lemnos hopes to see the sanitation measure extended to it as well, for only then will it acquire the longed-for tranquility and the Lemnians will prosper — benefits of which they have been deprived since the 10-member EAM committee was established under German rule, composed of 10 outsiders and not Lemnians.

“Foni tis Limnou” (Voice of Lemnos)

Below we publish a declaration of repentance by the then-conscript Konstantinos Valetas, now a physician residing in Athens, sent to us by post in May 1948, reading as follows:

“Dear Editor, I address this open letter to you in order to express my national and patriotic sentiments, which flood my soul, and I ask you to publish it in our city’s newspaper so that all may learn — especially the young men and women — of the current situation and the danger our beloved Fatherland faces from the Slavo-communists.

“When my Fatherland called upon me to serve it, I ran with great joy at its call. However, due to my bad past, the Fatherland did not entrust me with its glorious weapon and sent me to the Third Sapper Battalion, to that great National School, where I am happy because here I learned the treasonous and criminal aims of the Communist Party of Greece (KKE), which today openly collaborates with our age-old enemies the Bulgarian-Slavs, from whom they receive arms and supplies, and in exchange for all this they cede to them Macedonia and Thrace. Seeing these diabolical plans of the communists, I renounced them with all my heart and will fight them until my last breath.

And now I appeal to all the young men and women of our island to follow my example and renounce them and fight them so that our race may be saved. Long live eternal Greece, long live King Paul I, long live our National Army.

With respect, Pvt. Konstantinos Valetas, Third Sapper Battalion, 3rd Company, F.P.O. 902b.”

From the newspaper “Limnos” of 19 January 1945, by Mr. Emmanouel Konstantinidis, we excerpt the following:

“Yesterday evening, the same schoolteacher, continuing his revolutionary activity, went to the home of a fellow villager who was not an EAM member and demanded, along with several others, his resignation from the Food Distribution Committee of EM.ED., threatening that if he did not comply, serious incidents would occur. It goes without saying that the schoolteacher in the meantime

had notified the rest of the EAM members, who laid siege to the house. Under these circumstances, the person concerned declared that he would resign. But for God's sake, Mr. Karatheodiris, are we living under an EAM State? Is there freedom of conscience and security of life?... Furthermore, it [the communist publication "Laokratia"] fabricates events — for example those of Leros — whereas it is well known that their comrades threw two grenades at people enjoying themselves at someone's home in their village, wounding 5 persons among whom was a woman.

Afterwards it had the audacity to demand that the perpetrator not be arrested by the Police. People enjoy such impunity that they have even reached this point. These and many other things let our readers bear in mind so as not to be misled by publications of this kind or by people who, with no other occupation, go around the villages spreading only poison."

Newspaper "Limnos" of 23 February 1945:

"What could one expect from the organ of EAM Lemnos? Reverence toward the authorities? Certainly not... but the false scribe forgets that the Authorities represent the State, that the State has laws, and that for the general good of the service, not only transfers must be made but also dismissals of bad officials who were fed and continue to be fed by the State to occupy themselves with activities alien to their duties and to appear after the liberation as leaders and pioneers of subversive movements and primary causes of the division of the people. If they do not lower the flag of hatred and blood, then... they shall have themselves to blame."

Newspaper "Limnos" of 7 April 1945:

"We have repeatedly emphasized that the State does not pay its officials to occupy themselves with activities alien to their duties. We absolutely recognize freedom of opinion for all. But from this point to participating in secret and suspicious gatherings and playing the role of leaders and guides, there is a vast distance. We do not wish to expose certain actions of some officials, as we would become the cause of harm. But if this situation continues, we will be compelled to make public denunciations, and then let them settle their position vis-à-vis the State."

In our newspaper "Foni tis Limnou" of 18 October 1947 there was published the funeral oration delivered by the schoolteacher and Headmaster of the First Primary School of the Capital, Mr. Isidoros Damalas, reserve officer, decorated many times for his heroism and self-sacrifice during the Greco-Italian War of 1940–1941 and against the communist guerrillas, on the occasion of the unexpected death of his colleague, teacher Vasileios S. Papaspyridona, who was universally esteemed and distinguished particularly for his unpretentious character. Against that unpretentious character, the diabolical communist leadership of Lemnos directed its arrows dipped in communist poison, succeeding fully in its aim.

To the Departed Colleague, Vasileios S. Papaspyridon

"Unforgettable colleague, your untimely passing has plunged your family and all your collaborators into deep mourning.

Faithful to your duty, you fought as an honest soldier and fell on the ramparts of Public Education, having struggled to your last breath.

Your diligence and warm zeal for your work did not allow you to attend to your health, and the fatal moment came.

The slanderous and staged campaign against you, shortly before your death, on the part of malicious and bad-faith Greeks shook your soul, ruined your health, and pushed you swiftly toward the grave. Your soul, which now belongs to immortality and which, freed from human weaknesses, dwells in the realm of spirits, may it grant absolution to those who slandered you, those who with a light conscience caused you such bitterness before your death.

You died, but you will live always in the memory of your colleagues and in the memory of hundreds of your pupils, whom you tirelessly taught with love over a span of more than twenty years.

Ever-memorable colleague, your supervising Inspectorate, the Teachers' Association of Lemnos, and your pupils, through us, wish you the lightness of the earth, and to your collaborator-wife and your orphaned children, consolation from on high.

May your memory be eternal. Isidoros Damalas, President of the Teachers' Association."

From our newspaper "Foni tis Limnou" of 18 October 1947, we considered it useful for the History of Lemnos to excerpt the following:

"Consequent upon flagrant anti-national and treasonous actions on the part of the leading cadres of EAM and the KKE of Lemnos, we succeeded two months ago — to the great relief of its inhabitants — in the banishment of a group of 25 such persons, believing thereafter that we had shaken off the well-known vile treasonous contamination. Unfortunately, the latest consignment of 13 communist agents did not even manage to reach the place of exile, as it happened that the newly formed Government ordered their release without examining their files and without their submitting declarations of repentance.

SINCE the released persons, as soon as they returned here, resumed with greater passion their former anti-national activities, having also re-published their false leaflets, one of which calls the Prime Minister of Greece who amnestied and released them "PAGAPONTIOS PILATOS" [a Quisling Pontius Pilate].

SINCE their relations after their return are closer than before with the exiles here, with whom they are feverishly collaborating.

SINCE this intolerable situation has exasperated to the utmost the right-thinking society of the island, WE ASK Prime Minister Mr. Sofoulis and the Ministry of Public Order: how are we to punish this? What are we to say as Greeks to Greeks about the tragicomic nature of this whole situation? Who is guilty — the Rebellion or the Government? The released traitors of Greece or the Ministry of Public Order? Those released by the "QUISLING PONTIUS PILATE" or the "QUISLING PONTIUS PILATE" himself? Perhaps you are bearing each other's burdens? Or is the non-Slavo-communist Prime Minister, the "QUISLING PILATE," the one pre-eminently guilty before the entire Greek nation?

If mother Greece were to ask him: *'My son, why, when you saw me fighting desperately against cannibals, did you open the cages of the detained ones of their kind so that countless others might attack me? Why did you not want us to fight together against those who initially attacked me, so that we might then tame and pacify those preventively caged by my beloved son General Zervas? Do you not see that along the length of the Greek-Albanian borders the traitors have for 10 days been hastily constructing small airfields, forcibly driving on site the inhabitants of border villages where they work without food for their rapid construction? Do you not learn from the escaped inhabitants that Slavic officers are overseeing the construction of the airfields, that materials are being transported from Yugoslavia, and that the Greek communist rebels are being supplied with mountain artillery from Albania?*

WHAT WILL THE RESPONSIBLE PRIME MINISTER WHO HOLDS THE FATE OF THE NATION ANSWER?"

Below we publish excerpts from articles of the communist treasonous publications of Lemnos, from which it is evident how much our journalistic struggles against the communist leadership of Lemnos damaged their Satanic, treasonous, Pan-Slavist schemes against the inhabitants of the island:

"ELEFTHERI LIMNOS" (Free Lemnos) of 2 July 1945. Organ of the Political Coalition of the EAM parties.

"A real garden and orchard was the courtyard of our Gymnasium the day before yesterday. A hundred centenarian 'Gerontoudia' [lit. old men; derogatory term playing on surname Gerontoudis] who can no longer concentrate their minds gathered on Sunday and those same 'Gerontoudia' heard the senile wind-babble. And the orator, who as is well known sells at the Agency of A.E.R.A. and who fulfilled his duty to his country at home as an Air Defense volunteer, flew off with the help of his organization's patron god Aeolus."

From the second page of the same treasonous newspaper, we excerpt the following:

FROM THE WEEK'S ABSURDITIES: THE COMEDIC GATHERING OF THE E.O.L. — CHEERS FOR THE GLÜCKSBURG

"The Sunday before last, the members of the E.O.L. (National Organization of Lemnos) held a gathering in the courtyard of our Gymnasium.

To it, officially only the surrounding villages of Kaspakas, Kornos, Platy, and Thanos had been invited, but in reality, and secretly nearly all the villages had been notified to mobilize their forces and participate in the gathering.

Despite all this, those assembled barely reached 100 — and most of them were curious onlookers and others drawn in by deliberate slogans such as the effort to increase food distributions, etc.

Entire villages were conspicuous by their literal absence. Only a few naive people from Thanos participated and some from Platy led by the well-known Germanophile Varvaris, who surrounded by a few wretched people was literally creating a scene with his cries in favor of the Glücksburg. Also filtering through the gathering were other well-known Germanophiles of the market who, after Hitler's defeat, became fanatical supporters of the Glücksburg and were at the forefront of pro-royalist demonstrations.

In any case, this gathering certified two things: first, that this so-called organization represents absolutely no popular force whatsoever, and second, that it is not a national Organization of Lemnians — as they had been most shamelessly lying to us until now — but rather a club of royalists, tiny in number and composed at its base of backward people acting on orders that come to them from outside for pro-royalist propaganda and against progressive ideas.

To these, then, these nationalists and super-patriots, spoke the well-known paid agent of Anglo-Greek propaganda, who expounded the great aims of the Organization. Having spoken about the drought and destruction of crops, the melodramatic leader of the Blue-and-Whites emphasized the great danger of communism, advised his followers to monitor the communists and report them, and called for the removal of the foreign guides who are paid with the money of treason. And having also spoken about other fearful and terrible things which, respecting our readers, we refrain from noting, this indescribable Don Quixote concluded by cheering for all the United Nations separately except Russia. Finally he cheered three times “for our glorious King” and the performance ended..”

From the communist “Eleftheri Limnos” of 23 November 1947, a few days before the banning of both it and “Laokratia” — a ban which we ourselves had sought from the columns of our newspaper “Foni tis Limnou” and achieved through the Public Prosecutor Mr. Georgios Vasilopoulos — we excerpt the following for the record:

HERODIAS

“The modern Herodias has started her dance again and demands on a platter the head of ‘Eleftheri Limnos,’ this newspaper of the people that does not leave him in peace and spoils his plans. The G.A.V. of Lemnos occasionally lets out a cry and this time his howling concerned the closure of our newspaper. Why? Because we called, he says, Mr. Sofoulis a ‘Bagabondio Pilatos’ [Vagabond Pilate] and wrote ‘Paul was also present,’ whereas we should have written ‘His Majesty King Paul was also present.’

But the substance is not that. It is what we said above: that our newspaper, faithful to the line it has drawn for serving the interests of the people, disturbs him and does not leave him free to roam as if in an unfenced field.”

The same treasonous newspaper, regarding the communist schoolteacher who had been set free by the magnanimous Mother Greece and who, instead of repenting out of gratitude to his Fatherland, returned bringing with him various misleading treasonous communist publications, writes the following in his defense:

SAILOR

“At Moudros, a sailor of the force of the local Port Authority, searching the belongings of schoolteacher Lazaros Giotopoulos who was returning from exile, maltreated him brutally in front of the assembled crowd at the landing pier, because he found democratic newspapers on him —

perhaps to prove to those who doubted the genuine democracy and freedoms that reign in this land. Such is the situation.”

As the reader observes, the Pan-Slavist communists almost always replace the words “communist,” “communistic,” etc. with “democratic,” “democratic,” etc., to mislead the naive, it being well known that COMMUNISM IS THE COMPLETE OPPOSITE OF DEMOCRACY. FOR THIS REASON, STATES GOVERNED BY COMMUNIST REGIMES ARE GOVERNED NOT DEMOCRATICALLY BUT TYRANNICALLY AND TERRORISTICALLY BY ONE AND ONLY ONE PARTY — THE COMMUNIST PARTY — AS IN RUSSIA, CHINA, YUGOSLAVIA, AND ALL THE STATES OF THE WARSAW PACT.

After the elections of March 1946, we departed hastily with our wife and our infant daughter Poletta to Athens, boarding the same steamship on which the Lemnian conscripts had embarked, since the island still lacked a regular coastal shipping service. We departed in haste because, as the Medical Board composed of Drs. Theologos Malachias, Antonios Lampadaridis, and Chrysostomos Glykas concluded, the infant, having lost its left eye, was in danger of losing the right eye as well. In Athens, she was immediately admitted to the Children’s Hospital in Ambelokipi and was healed, by God’s will, thanks to the antibiotic Penicillin administered by injection, which that year was used for the first time at the said institution.

We did not go to Athens to seek, as a reward for our journalistic struggles, appointment as Prefect of Lemnos, for this does not accord with our principles. Everything for our Fatherland. From it, as reward, nothing. We have demonstrated this many times. We confine ourselves to these words only, lest we boast beyond what is fitting. Both friends and enemies know us.

But the scheming communist leadership of Lemnos, as do all such leaderships in all states, in order to put us out of the way, seized the opportunity and exposed us to our compatriots with the malice characteristic of communism — even in this case, pitilessly — just as it had sought to do in many other cases, without however reaping the laurels of victory, as it did in the case of the unfortunate ever-memorable teacher Papaspyridon and against many others, because we knew well the character of the unscrupulous, bloodthirsty, and contemptible enemies against whom we had been fighting for years for the good of Lemnos. Here is what they published vindictively against us:

THEIR IDEAL

“Gerontoudis went to Athens and moved heaven and earth to be appointed Prefect of Lemnos. In other words, he went to receive his reward for the efforts he made on behalf of the party now in government.

Unfortunately for the champion of monarchical restoration, Gerontoudis, and fortunately for the people of Lemnos, his effort failed and the would-be prefect returned a simple ‘Gerontoudis.’”

Since our policy from the columns of our newspaper “Foni tis Limnou” had been “Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar’s,” we excerpt from the issues of “Foni tis Limnou” dated 2 May 1948, 7 June 1948, and 23 November 1949 the following, always pertaining to the history of Lemnos.

THE SUPPLY OFFICE AFFAIR

“From the conscripted former employee of the Supply Office, Mr. Nik. Argyriou, a telegram was sent to his relatives: ‘Allegations untrue do not worry I write I will prove alibi,’ which caused a very deep impression.

We remain with the impression that something significant and unexpected will be presented to us both by the testimony of Mr. Nik. Argyriou and by the audit to be carried out. The ‘I will prove alibi’ calms us and gives us great hope to believe that the Distribution Committees of the six communities will ultimately be relieved of the obligation to pay the moneys owed to the Public Treasury. We advise these Committees to testify as soon as possible, without fear, about everything that came to their attention on the day they deposited the money, because the Distribution Committees — and no one else — are recorded as owing money to the Public Treasury.”

WE SIMPLY ASK

“About two years ago, the compatriot and our uncle Mr. Pavlos Katsikogiannis, who had arrived from America, personally handed within the Community Office of Kastro to the worthy Prefect a cheque for 100 dollars for the reconstitution of the “Philoptochos” [charitable organization] which had been dissolved at that time, and as we well remember, the Prefect with great emotion willingly promised our uncle that he would personally take care of its reconstitution.

However, since approximately two years have now elapsed and we still have no Philoptochos, at a time when our nation fighting the struggle on behalf of all is passing through the most critical of its martyred moments, and since the needs of our unfortunate destitute compatriots are great and pressing, we ask the worthy Prefect why he did not take care of the reconstitution of the Philoptochos of Lemnos, which could also have contributed as far as possible to the national cause.”

THE SUPPLY OFFICE AFFAIR (continued)

From the course of the audit, investigations, and charges, three things emerge so far:

1. That the embezzlement discovered is attributable not to the conscripted employee of the Supply Office, Nikolaos Argyriou, but to someone else who at this moment ought not to be present on Lemnos, which for the first time is witnessing so great an abomination.
2. That the planned scheme for the deception of the deceived victims dates back over a year.
3. This past Monday, thanks to the audit by the Financial Inspector of Public Accountants, Mr. Nikolaos Kyrmitsakis, it became known that a year ago Kon. Palaiologos or Ambados, president of the Food Distribution Committee of the village of Sardes, about to be exiled as an EAM-communist,

deposited at the Prefect of Lemnos — in the presence of the Secretary of the Sardes Community, Mr. Apostolos Papadopoulos — the sum of 1,000,000 drachmas, to be deposited in the Public Treasury.

Why it was not deposited in the Public Treasury is a matter for the Prefect, who, after first taxing his memory, exclaimed: “Ah yes, now I remember, but I gave them to Argyriou; and I am prepared to pay them from my own funds!”

From this confession of the Prefect, we were persuaded that he regarded the employee Argyriou as something more than the Director of the Public Treasury, which is why he avoided for a whole year asking him whether or not he had deposited this substantial sum.

We had written in a previous issue of our newspaper about the Philoptochos that has still not been reconstituted and about the 100-dollar cheque which our uncle Pavlos Katsikogiannis had personally handed to the Prefect two years ago before his departure for America. Since nothing related to this was communicated to us and since we learned reliably and positively that the cheque was cashed without the Philoptochos being reconstituted, we publish simply the impropriety so that it may come to the knowledge of the competent authorities, from whom we will also learn when it was cashed, where, and for what purpose.

It would also be greatly desirable if a proper administrative audit of the War Relief Administration were timely ordered by the competent authority, to verify all collections made and the monetary amounts granted to the families of those fighting, because we believe that only with a thorough audit of the said administration by a senior Treasury official of the State will it be proven what the community contributed and what each family of our fighting heroes received.”

STUDENT CAMPS OF LEMNOS 1948

“Under the above title, a study by the Inspector of Primary Schools, Mr. Nik. Th. Pierrakos, has been published and is circulating these days.

The study of Mr. Pierrakos is unique in its kind for Lemnos, and for this reason the gratitude of every Lemnian toward the foreign educator who loved our Lemnos as much as we Lemnians do, who strives to raise the intellectual level of our place in a pleasant and original way for our many emigrants, and who indicates in the end what must be done here and there, is truly exceptional. Our compatriots residing abroad will be particularly moved when they read this beautiful book which so nobly extols them. The best gift we could give them is the author’s chosen words. This small thank-you and congratulatory hymn of ours for the work of the Inspector, we are certain, will touch the responsive strings of all our compatriots who wish to support him in his difficult work on behalf of our schools and public benefit works in general.”

YET ANOTHER TRANSFER

“The Police Officer Mr. Argyrios Fournalis, recently promoted to the rank of Warrant Officer, is being transferred to Gytheion and is set to leave our island the coming Monday.

We rejoice and congratulate him on his promotion, but we are sorry to lose him.

We knew him as a Police Officer honouring the glorious and martyred Corps of the Royal Gendarmerie, and we admired him in critical and nightmarish moments. He has full awareness of his laborious duty and the high vocation of a Greek officer. Our sincere wishes accompany him throughout his career and all his life.”

THE WORKS AND DAYS OF HIS EMINENCE

“The undivided interest of His Eminence of Lemnos, Vasileios, was manifested in a way that this time surprised his entire flock, which has infinite respect for him.

The Bishop of Lemnos, Vasileios, extended the bounds of his duties beyond what is permissible in order to assist and benefit the inhabitants of Lemnos who were suffering in various ways from the misfortunes of the German-Italian occupation, inhabitants who never loved and esteemed a shepherd of theirs as much as they have His Eminence of Lemnos, Vasileios.

His Eminence of Lemnos, Vasileios, informs us by letter addressed to the Directorate of our newspaper “Foni tis Limnou” of the following welcome yet astonishing and moving things, for no Metropolitan of Lemnos has ever conceived of or would conceive of taking measures, on his own initiative, unrelated to his exalted duties, such as the following:

HOLY METROPOLIS OF LEMNOS

No. Prot. 733 — In Kastro, 27 December 1949

To the Editors of the Newspapers of Kastro, Here.

“Honoured Editor, Below I set out in copies the correspondence exchanged between the Holy Metropolis of Lemnos and the Ministry of Health, regarding the dispatch of water pipes to Lemnos, and I kindly ask that, if you deem it useful, you publish it in your esteemed newspaper. With the highest esteem, THE BISHOP OF LEMNOS, VASILEIOS.”

KINGDOM OF GREECE — MINISTER OF HEALTH

No. Prot. 1149 — Athens, 19/12/1949

YOUR EMINENCE,

In response to your letter No. 860/8/12/49, I inform You that no oversight occurred regarding the provision of water supply pipes to the island of Lemnos; on the contrary, it was given preference, for which reason it is only to the island of Lemnos of the entire Lesbos district that the provision of pipes has been approved by virtue of a recent decision of the competent Council, as follows:

- 1) Municipality of Kastro: 800 pipes, 2 inches (supporting documents from the prefect must be sent).

- 2) 2) Community of Kaspakas: 100 pipes, 2 inches.
- 3) 3) Kornos: 100 pipes, 2 inches. 4) Varos: 200
- 4) pipes, 2 inches.
- 5) 5) Kontias: 200 pipes, 2 inches.
- 6) 6) Portianou: 50 pipes, 2 inches.
- 7) 7) Chalikos: 500 pipes, 2 inches. With all respect, K.G. Rodopoulos.
True copy. Kastro, 27 December 1949. THE BISHOP OF LEMNOS, VASILEIOS.

HOLY METROPOLIS OF LEMNOS

No. Prot. 680 — In Kastro, 8 December 1949

To His Excellency Mr. Rodopoulos K., Minister of Health, Athens.

“Mr. Minister, the competent service of your Ministry, rightly acting with your approval, decided to dispatch water supply pipes to the provinces in need thereof. Undoubtedly it was by oversight that the island of Lemnos was omitted, although it has such an urgent need for water pipes that not even a moment’s delay in dispatching them can be tolerated. I therefore request you, adding my own entreaty to the efforts of other parties, to be pleased to order the immediate dispatch of these to those communities of the island that have requested them, as your Ministry is aware. Fervent supplicant before God, THE BISHOP OF LEMNOS, VASILEIOS. True copy. In Kastro, 27 December 1949. THE BISHOP OF LEMNOS, VASILEIOS.”

But the gangrene of the mass emigration of Lemnians abroad, which became evident toward the end of 1945, is so deep and widespread by 1950 that the entire island presents symptoms of fever and decline. The abandonment of Lemnian soil especially by farmers and stockbreeders in order to go to America, Australia, Africa, and Canada — practically from the liberation until 1950 initially, and thereafter to Germany — was, we may say, the coup de grâce for Lemnos, as it halted its rapid and promising development.

The wave of emigration would have been even more discouraging if in 1960 Lemnos had not acquired a branch of the Social Insurance Foundation (IKA), and if in 1962 the model cotton gin had not begun operating for the ginning of the finest quality cotton in all of Greece — the “Cotton of

Lemnos.” Concerning these matters, in the newspaper “Foni tis Limnou” of 23 November 1949 we wrote:

CONCERNING THE IKA (Social Insurance Foundation)

“We hear of IKA but we see no IKA. The State — or rather the rotten minds of those governing us today — have not yet remembered us. And yet we too constitute an entire province, which recently was honoured by the visit of the King and Queen themselves. Why this injustice? Should not the Social Insurance Foundation have had its branch in poor Lemnos long ago, where so very many working people cannot enjoy the benefits of the free medical and pharmaceutical care provided by the IKA? Do those governing us today perhaps not know that Lemnos is a Greek island and that it is inhabited by Greeks of the purest stock, the very purest, who mourn the loss of 120 heroes fallen in the war against the communist guerrillas?”

OUR PLIGHT

“Who does not know that a public auction was announced for the construction of the model American cotton gin and that since last May there has been a decision by the Ministry of Agriculture on its establishment in Kastro, and that for this purpose a credit of 62,000 dollars from the Marshall Plan has been granted?

We all know these things, just as we well know that construction of the buildings ought to have begun long ago. Now, as we are informed, the construction of the cotton gin complex has been suspended until the newly appointed Committee from the Ministry of Agriculture arrives, to examine and decide in which part of the island the cotton gin should be established!!! That is to say, we are beginning again from the beginning. The first decision of the same Ministry is “being taken for a walk,” because the Papandreous and the Malliakis are working in every way to have it placed at Moudros in order to make the Moudrini their own people. With matters standing thus, we very much fear that Lemnos may not acquire a cotton gin because many unforeseen things may occur until, etc. We shall return to this in the next issue.”

LEMNOS ACQUIRES AIR SERVICE

Concerning the inauguration and blessing of the air service of Lemnos, we excerpt the following from the newspaper “Limnos” by Mr. Emmanouel Konstantinidis — our own newspaper “Foni tis Limnou” not having been published, due to our absence in Athens at the time:

A HISTORIC CELEBRATION

“Lemnos celebrated for the first time a great festival. So great that only the liberation of 8 October 1912 was greater. Then the bonds of slavery were broken and the people celebrated with enthusiasm because they breathed free in the free air. Today the bonds of isolation too are broken,

and all of us who for 47 years of Freedom suffered from our abandonment find ourselves suddenly in the warm embrace of the Fatherland.

No one expected, it is true, that we would have this good thing that represents progress and civilization in every country so quickly. We had many other things to witness in the meantime. But circumstances ignored them and this heaven-sent gift we savoured earlier than we expected. We owe gratitude of course both to the Government and to Civil Aviation. To the Government because it pursued and achieved the construction of the airport, but also to Olympic Airways because it hastened to take advantage of its construction.

THE MKBEA (Military Construction and Engineer Battalion of the Air Force)

But a small parenthesis: The Technical Service of the Military Air Force deserves congratulations for completing a tremendous yet magnificent work. The Commander of the MKBEA, Mr. Vlachos, and his fellow officers down to the last private, displayed industriousness and had such dedication that in a relatively short time they presented one of the finest airports in the country.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT

The 15th of August was set for the inauguration of the air service. Related announcements dropped from an aircraft conveyed this joyful message even to the remotest points of the island. Three times a week Lemnos will communicate with Athens and with Kavala. And the journey duration merely one hour and 10 minutes to Athens and 35 minutes to Kavala.

GATHERINGS

From early, an unprecedented movement began. All means of transport were put into action and brought large numbers of people to the airport from the distant villages. From the nearby villages of Varos, Karpasi, Atsiki, Lychna, Romanou, Repanidi, Rossopouli, Moudros, and Leivadochori, however, all the inhabitants undertook on foot this walk of 2 to 5 kilometres. In front of the airport area at 1 p.m., thousands of animals and hundreds of bicycles, automobiles, motorcycles, and carts were tethered. A motley crowd had spread through the airport installations and was examining everything.

KTEL

In the meantime, the 8 KTEL (intercity bus service) coaches of Lemnos also brought over 200 invited guests from Kastro at 1:30 p.m. Among these, all the Civil, Military, Police, Port, Municipal, and Community Authorities, and the world of Science, Commerce, Crafts, the Sea, etc.

At the same hour there arrived also the Locum Tenens of the Holy Metropolis of Lemnos, His Eminence Ioakeim, Metropolitan of Alexandroupolis, with his entourage. Our information, as soon as we arrived, was that the aircraft had taken off from Ellinikon at 12:36 p.m., therefore its arrival would be at 1:45...

We managed to cast a glance at the shed that was used as a passenger waiting room — quite

spacious. In the middle a partition and a passage with the buffet on the right, the offices on the left, and at the back on the right the men's and women's toilets. Everything clean and well-kept. The Airport Services at their posts. The Airport Director Mr. Stamatios Gkikas, the Airstation Master Mr. Pelopidas Kardamitsas, the Civil Aviation section head Mr. Theologis, and the General Agent Mr. Sokr. Pantazoglou in constant motion.

IT ARRIVES

For a moment a hum is heard and the crowd searches with its eyes on the horizon for the aircraft, which at a relatively low altitude appears from the Eastern direction of Fakos, approaches and descends after tracing a beautiful circle above the area. It arrives gently and lands on the splendid runway, while the airstation master directs it to where it will park. But the aircraft had barely stopped when the barrier was breached. The crowd approaches while the mobile staircase is still being positioned. They touch it, go under the wings, near the propellers. They observe the boarding passengers. They are enthused to the highest degree. The pilot Mr. Kostidis tells our director who had asked him for information whether they had a film camera, that they had never imagined there would be such a reception, because never at any other airport had they given us such a reception!!!...

And yet the newsreels missed a completely unprecedented opportunity to show the living image of seven thousand people who gathered to celebrate such a historic and unprecedented event.

DISEMBARKATION — BLESSING — SPEECHES

The passengers disembarked and the Blessing ceremony began immediately, at the end of which His Eminence prayed also for Aristotle, Christina, their children, and the entire staff of Olympic Airways, and said the following: "Undoubtedly all of us present here at this moment at the noble invitation of Olympic Airways feel exceptional joy and the deepest emotion, because under the prayers and blessings of our Mother Church we have today celebrated the inauguration of the new air line linking our island with Northern Greece and with the capital, and of the auspiciously completed airport — this beautiful and magnificent technical work which constitutes a very significant step of progress in the communications sector of our country, whose construction is owed to the caring concern of the respected State. And even more greatly do those who took the initiative and assumed the expense feel this joy, as well as the people of our island, and those who laboured and struggled and sweated to erect this new creation, this magnificent technical achievement, for the completion of which our national Air Force also contributed with intense rhythm — thanks to the concern of our Revered Government, through which the very many difficulties were overcome.

And now, noting by general accord that our Nation has by God's grace found again that Avenue within which horizons of civilizing visions are opening and being mapped out under the inspired, wise, and far-sighted guidance of the great man, our Governor Konstantinos Karamanlis, who with

his strong hands undertook under the aegis of His Majesty our people-beloved Sovereign the gigantic work of recreation and reconstruction of our beloved Fatherland, our venerable Mother Church has nothing but to wish and beseech the Most High to strengthen all his efforts and lavish upon him length of days, steadfast health, and a glorious and unshakeable premiership.

In closing, I warmly congratulate Olympic Airways as well and wish success in its works for the good of our beloved Fatherland.

Subsequently, Mr. Apergis of Olympic Airways delivered the following address: "Olympic Airways thanks you, for you had the kind generosity to honour with your presence the beginning of the civilizing Work which it has undertaken on your island. From today, the wings of Olympic will connect Lemnos with the capital and with Northern Greece by modern and efficient service." He



"Honoring and glorifying the Greek name throughout the entire Earth, the great Greek shipowner and major businessman, Mr. Aristotle Onassis, founder and owner of Olympic Airways"

then expressed thanks to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Communications, and the entire Government, as well as to the parliamentary representatives of the island and to the Chief of the Air Force General Staff and the Chief of Civil Aviation for the interest they showed for this progress of the island, which will contribute to the development of its productive interests, the benefits of which the progressive Lemnian People deserve to enjoy."

Thereafter the Mayor of Myrina also emphasized the special significance of the inaugurated work, which serves the progress and civilization of our island, and expressed gratitude to the Government. The aircraft in the meantime had taken off heading toward Kavala. To the invited guests were offered refreshments as well as chilled

beer with mezedes. Those departing expressed their enthusiasm for this splendid ceremony, which had brought together so many people from all over the island — an island now served in the most advantageous manner by Olympic Airways. From that time on, the inhabitants of Lemnos ceased complaining about their disadvantaged position relative to other Greeks in the remaining provinces of the State, a position in which they had long found themselves, and a great surge of construction was set in motion, continuing at the same pace to the present day. The capital of Lemnos, Myrina, no longer has the appearance of a Turkish town. Modern residences have been built in the central areas of the capital, and beautiful flower-adorned villas grace the surrounding landscape.

One of its greatest assets is also the 250-bed tourist hotel "Akti Myrina" of the BUNGALOWS type, with associated noteworthy buildings and other facilities, which is flooded every summer season by wealthy visitors from all five continents, because in addition to its exceptional surroundings, holidaymakers enjoy every form of recreation and comfort.

At this point, for the historical record, we note that it was founded on the initiative of entrepreneur Mr. Athanasios Psarof of Myrina, on the shore near the chapel of Agia Varvara, which was built at the expense of his grandfather, the late "Shipmaster" Athanasios Psarof, in thanksgiving for his rescue from a great storm. Today, in the area of the capital of Lemnos, the barren tracts, fields and plots of land are offered at exceptionally high prices, while the rents for houses and apartments do not differ from those in Athens. All the Public Services of Lemnos function conscientiously and productively, perhaps more so than at any other time in the past, thus contributing to the island's progress in every respect.

The grateful island of Lemnos will never forget the kindness and affability of the Prefect Mr. N. Afentakis, later Prefect of the Prefecture of Chios, and especially his administrative ability. We remember the Prefect Mr. Afentakis, endowed with rare administrative gifts and a man of higher education, as someone who imposed himself through his gracious refinement and who observed his subordinates with the seriousness of a father, expressed through his furrowed brow. During his tenure all the services functioned impeccably, willingly and productively. During those years we observed at close hand, over a series of years, the heads of various services, and because the diligence they showed benefited the Island greatly, we mention out of historical duty some things about them — first concerning the then Inspector of Primary Schools of the Lemnos province and now General Inspector of Primary Education of the 1st Region of the Ministry of Education, Mr. Panagiotis Galliotis.

He is an eminent personality whose chief characteristics are the noble Hellenic-Christian and humanitarian sentiments by which he is inspired. He is animated by a vigorous Greek spirit, and the integrity of his character and his devotion to his high duties have been justly rewarded. His seven-year stay on Lemnos bound him inseparably to it, which is why the reception that Lemnians generally afford Mr. Galliotis whenever he visits Lemnos for professional reasons, accompanied by his most gracious wife, is deeply moving — as moving as the parting at his departure.

But so that the reader may appreciate the Mr. General Inspector even more, we reproduce below what the newspaper "Lemnian Cry" of June 1969 wrote about him:

VISIT OF THE GENERAL INSPECTOR OF PRIMARY EDUCATION MR. PANAGIOTIS GALLIOTIS TO LEMNOS

With sentiments of respect, love and devotion, the Inspector of Primary Schools of Lemnos, Mr. Anastasios Panagopoulos, and the teachers of his District, welcomed on the past Monday, 5th May, their superior, the General Inspector of the 1st Region, Mr. PANAGIOTIS GALLIOTIS, who arrived by air from Athens for an inspection of the Lemnos district. Mr. General Inspector, remaining for four days, inspected numerous schools of the Educational District of LEMNOS.

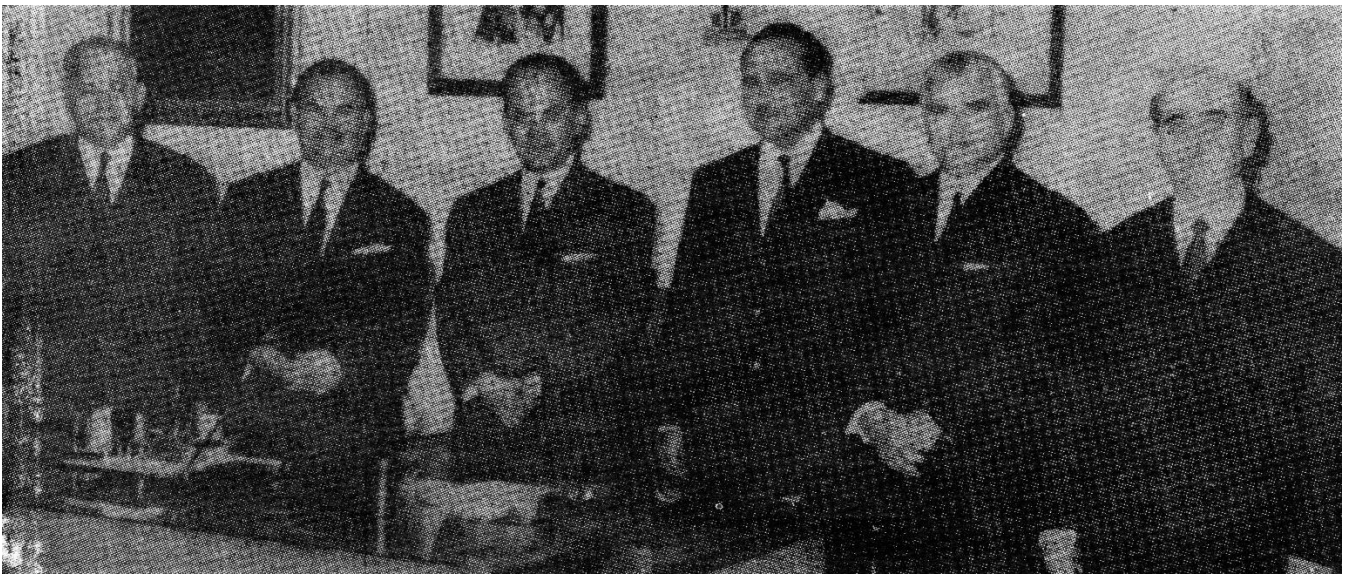
Furthermore, on the afternoon of Wednesday, the teachers held a festive gathering in the hall of the B' Primary School of Myrina, in order to pay their respects to their superior, the General Inspector. Mr. General Inspector was welcomed by all with spontaneous applause, and immediately the Inspector of Primary Schools of Lemnos, Mr. ANASTASIOS PANAGOPOULOS, presented and greeted the distinguished visitor with an inspired address, extolling the virtues and intellectual stature of Mr. General Inspector, which shines resplendently among the highest educational officers of the Country. The State, recognising his scientific competence and integrity of character, placed him worthily at the summit of the educational pyramid. He concluded by thanking Mr. General Inspector for his particular interest in the frontier Region of Lemnos, its teachers and inhabitants, who remember the invaluable services he rendered to the National Governments in the Temple of Education during a period of seven years, when he served in Lemnos as Inspector of Primary Schools. The conclusion of the eloquent address of Mr. Inspector was met with lively and prolonged applause. Mr. General Inspector, deeply moved by the warm reception and the very captivating address of Mr. Inspector, thanked him for what he said about his person, and taking the floor, spoke for more than an hour on service matters. During this he did not conceal his love for the child and the heroic teacher, the tireless worker of the intellect, and he called upon them to reflect upon the responsibilities and burdens that he carries on his Herculean shoulders, now that we find ourselves on the eve of a regenerating Greece under the National Government of Greece.

The substantive address of Mr. General Inspector, embellished with appropriate and fine humour, was most enjoyable, drawing a storm of applause from the teacher audience. Subsequently the staff of the host School offered the visitors sweets and refreshments.

In the evening the Teachers' Association of Lemnos hosted a dinner in honour of the distinguished visitor and his inspector at the seafront centre "AKROGIALI." During this event, Inspector Mr. Panagopoulos, raising a toast to the health of the honoured General Inspector, thanked and assured him that the Lemnian teachers see in his person a brilliant man and their caring superior, and that the traces of his passage through

Lemnos remain vivid and strong in the souls of Lemnians, wishing him all that is highest and finest.

Mr. General Inspector, in his expressions of thanks, proposed a toast to the health of all those present, assuring them that from his new position too they would find him a willing supporter in matters both personal and professional that concerned them. He did not fail to mention that his love for Lemnos and its people is heartfelt, and was demonstrated in practice the previous year, when Lemnos was stricken by earthquakes — as Inspector of Primary Schools of the D' Region of Athens and even before his name was professionally reconnected with Lemnos — by sending to his beloved island the sum of 75,000 drachmas together with 237 parcels, derived from a collection among the teachers and pupils of his then District, for the benefit of the earthquake-stricken inhabitants of Lemnos.



The Prime Minister and Minister of Education Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos in conference with the Deputy Minister Mr. Sioris, Inspectors of Primary Education and the Teachers' Federation. To the right of Mr. Prime Minister, the General Inspector of the 1st Region, Mr. Panag. GalliotOs.

His deeply moving words were greeted by spontaneous applause.

A celebration followed, amid a civilised and merry atmosphere, until the early hours of the night. Mr. General Inspector and his wife danced the tsamikos and kalamatiano, accompanied by teachers and to the lively expressions of those present, while a group of Lemnian teachers danced the local Lemnian dance, the "Kechagiadiko."

The following day Mr. General Inspector, accompanied by Mr. Inspector, took his leave of the authorities of the town and departed by air, returning to Athens — his home base — having through his visit invigorated the pulse of the Educational District of Lemnos.

After General Inspector Mr. Galliotis, who as we saw hastened to organise a collection among the teachers and pupils of the Prefecture of Aetolia-Acarnania, in order to be among the first to come to the aid of the sorely tried inhabitants of Lemnos, beloved to him, on account of the devastating earthquake of February 1968, in gratitude we mention with sympathy also: the Commander of the Gendarmerie of Lemnos, former Squadron Leader of the Tourist Police, Mr. Evangelos Tatsopoulos, who enjoyed esteem and respect throughout the entire Island and was loved by all Lemnians — because in all things and at all times during his eight-year service in Lemnos he behaved most kindly and humanely toward everyone, even toward the most minor offenders of his district, to the point of offering them refreshments in his Office before they made their statements. No Commander of the Gendarmerie has ever been so loved in any other province of Greece as Mr. Evangelos Tatsopoulos was by the inhabitants of Lemnos.



The Commander of the Gendarmerie of Lemnos, Mr. Evangelos Tatsopoulos.

The Director of the then Centre for Social Welfare of Lemnos, Stylianos Tsoukalos, a most noble gentleman of duty and a humanitarian, who showed his emotion and grief openly whenever the service under him was unable to come to the aid of those in immediate need of assistance.

The thoroughly proper and most just Agronomist of Lemnos, Michail Prevelakis.

The progressive and conscientious Agronomist Mr. Georgios Tsalidis, who laboured to persuade the inhabitants of Lemnos to apply themselves to the scientific cultivation of their fields, to the afforestation of their uncultivated tracts, and to give Lemnos a tree nursery worthy of her.

Among the outstanding figures in the history of Lemnos is the notary Mr. Ioannis Papoutsidakis, whom the inhabitants have justly loved greatly and hold in gratitude. Mr. Papoutsidakis has been rendering invaluable services to Lemnos for approximately 35 years, not only as a conscientious and most refined notary, but also as Representative of the Red Cross, especially after the liberation from the German yoke.

The Lemnians are grateful to Mr. Papoutsidakis and maintain their undiminished esteem for him, both for his noteworthy historical study on Lemnos, published in the newspaper "Lemnos" by Mr. Emmanuil Konstantinidis and in the periodical "Hephaestus" of the Lemnians of the

United States of America, and for his friendly feelings toward the inhabitants of Lemnos. The love of the Lemnians for him is sincerely exceptional.

The late progressive Mayor of Myrina, Nikolaos Karavias, because together with Mr. Panagiotis Papadopoulos he moved heaven and earth so that the capital of Lemnos, Kastri, should once again be named Myrina, as it was called in antiquity, and because he made great efforts and toil for the advancement of the Municipality of Myrina.



The Mayor of Myrina, Mr. Nikolaos Karavias, addressing the King and Queen in the year 1949.

The first Mayor of Myrina, now aged 92, Mr. Panagiotis Papadopoulos, as one of the most progressive of Lemnians and because he spared no efforts or toil to advance, as a councillor of the Pan-Lemnian Committee, the estate of the Metropolis and the Agriculture and Horticulture of the Island. The services that the centenarian Mr. Panagiotis Papadopoulos rendered over more than half a century to his homeland Lemnos as Mayor and as President or councillor of Communities, Ecclesiastical Committees and other Associations, especially Agricultural Cooperatives, have been offered by very few Lemnians. The opinion of Mr. Papadopoulos was always the weightiest, and his proposals were welcome and readily accepted. At this point we reproduce here one of his proposals, published in our newspaper "Voice of Lemnos" on 7th June 1948, so that the reader may judge and appreciate him all the more:

Military Welfare

"The families of Lemnos's conscripted sons are in need, as is well known, of serious and genuine support, because their children are fighting

for hearth and home and for all of us who live quietly and undisturbed in the rear, at our work and in our houses. In order to help the families of our heroes, however, we must not be satisfied with the meagre proceeds from food rationing coupons, because these amount to no more than crumbs, and crumbs cannot relieve the sorely tried families. Other serious measures must be taken, and to this end we propose the following:

God has given Lemnos a very good harvest this year. The communities of Lemnos, from the general taxation of agricultural production, will collect by the most conservative estimates in the order of 4% above 200 million drachmas. Before the war and perhaps also today, 1%, that is one quarter thereof, was allocated to the funds of the School Committees. This year the School Committees can, I believe, defer to a more suitable time the covering of any needs they may have, since we have other more pressing needs, such as the present relief of the destitute families of our fighting sons.

Do those responsible not think it proper to act accordingly, so that if there is any legal impediment it be circumvented, so that the 1/4 of the total Community taxation allocated to the School Committees be devoted to Military Welfare? The sum is not inconsiderable. By our calculations it will exceed 50 million drachmas, an amount with which it is possible for the families of the fighting men to be relieved effectively. — Panagiotis Papadopoulos"

The former President of the Municipal Council of Myrina and for 35 years Agent of various steamship companies, Mr. Nikolaos Bournias, who served the inhabitants of all the villages in numerous ways, at a time when the harbour of the capital Myrina lacked a breakwater, particularly during the winter months at night in stormy weather, gales, tempests and torrential rains.

His Eminence the Metropolitan of Lemnos Dionysios, because he published an impressive Album on Lemnos, in which all the churches and schoolhouses of all the villages of the Island are presented. The excellent friend of Lemnos, Mr. Nikolaos Protopapas, who never ceased to offer to Lemnos, so dearly loved by him, his well-documented articles from the columns of the newspaper "Lemnos" by the lawyer Mr. Emman. Konstantinidis, until 1966.

The island counts the then director of the Agricultural Bank of Lemnos, Mr. Nikolaos Protopapas, among its greatest friends, both for his highly prized innumerable articles and other studies on Lemnos, and for his theatrical work "MAROULA OF LEMNOS," which was inspired by his very warm and noble feelings for Lemnos.

The Mayor of Myrina from 1963 to the present, Mr. Alexandros Fergadiotis, whose Hellenic-Christian and patriotic sentiments, the refinement he inherited from his late father, and the activity he displays in every direction for the advancement of his birthplace, as well as his willing service to every fellow-townsmen and compatriot without distinction, justly elevate him to the first rung of the ladder of the finest Lemnians. Mayor Alekos Fergadiotis has never offered any excuse or pretext to any of his compatriots to avoid

serving them at any hour of the day or night. With the strength that distinguishes him he advanced the Municipality of Myrina to an unimaginable degree. He took care in every way for road construction, water supply, electric lighting and the beautification of the town. He developed the beach at the Turkish Shore, cleared the harbour of a submerged reef, paved with cobblestones the majority of the lanes of the capital and its suburbs of Tsasi and Andronion, extended the breakwater so that steamships could berth alongside, thus relieving passengers of the trouble of embarking in the middle of the night and especially during the winter months by rowing boats. He laid out squares and streets and is taking care that the Municipality of Myrina should obtain a town plan, so that in the future boulevards, roads, squares, playing fields, a Children's Playground, a Gymnasium and suchlike may be laid out. A problem that is also occupying him at present is the development of the beach at the Greek Shore, which unfortunately still lacks shelters, showers, changing rooms and a modern underground toilet for men and women. Mayor Mr. Alexandros Fergadiotis might well have attended to these matters too, had not the powerful earthquake of three years ago caused great destruction in Myrina.



The statue of Maroula of Lemnos.

The former Mayor of Myrina, Mr. Takis Papas, during whose tenure the beautiful Archaeological Museum of Lemnos was inaugurated.

The former President of the Board of Administration of the Capital and President of the Pan-Lemnian Committee, which administers the Estate of the Metropolis, Mr. Grigorios Vagiakos, grandson of the great merchant of Atsiki during the Turkish period, Grigorios Vagiakos, as a serious, steadfast and respected Lemnian, as well as an irreproachable merchant and shipping agent, serving the Island greatly today, together with his equally worthy and universally beloved son Nikolaos.

The long-standing President of the Community of Atsiki and Councillor of the Pan-Lemnian Committee, as a steadfast, noble and conscientious Lemnian, Mr. Charalampos Sarantis.

Mr. Aristidis Papadopoulos, who welcomed the King and Queen to Moudros in 1949 and who for many years served as President of the Community of Moudros.

The former politician from Moudros, beloved by all Lemnians, Mr. Dimitrios Taros, and his son Mr. Konstantinos, as nationally-minded and progressive Lemnians, and as those who have willingly served every Lemnian without distinction for approximately 50 years.

The conscientious Notary and devoted Lemnian, Mr. Charalampos Varitis, because he receives and serves every Lemnian willingly and most kindly, with the affability that distinguishes him.

The ladies who have constituted and continue to constitute the Board of Administration of "Philoptochos Lemnos" (Friends of the Poor), and in particular the most noble ladies Margarita Nik. Politaridis, Totta Nik. Kisemlis, Mika Melissas and Miss Tassoula Rigas, because for years and decades they have nobly and wholeheartedly assisted every unfortunate and destitute Lemnian.

The most noble Director of the branch of the Commercial Bank of Myrina, from Kontias, Mr. Nikolaos Tsakonas, as one who most worthily holds the position he occupies, for which reason the esteem and love of his compatriots for him is manifest.

The nationally-minded resistance fighter and physician Kosmas Kanellos, as someone who struggled hard in the EAM-controlled area of the village of Pourtiano to encourage his fellow-villagers and to prevent them from being swept away by the EAM-Communists.

The undaunted nationally-minded physician from Moudros, Mr. Malakas, as one who fearlessly threw himself into the struggle of the nationally-minded Lemnians against the EAM members, and especially when his village was under EAM control.

From this point we turn, out of honour and gratitude, to the communities of Lemnians in Attica and Macedonia.

THE FOUNDING OF THE "UNION OF LEMNIANS OF ATHENS"

The first General Assembly of the first enrolled members took place on 21st December 1933 at the tavern of Messrs. Myron Stefanakis and Theofanis Kefalas at 8 Eupolidos Street, during which, following a secret ballot, its first Board of Administration was elected. This was composed of Messrs. Dimitrios Stelios, Charalampos Agalias, Evangelos Evangelidis, Panagiotis Fragkoulis, Ioannis Lantouris, Panagiotis Chatzoglou, Antonios Lambadaridis, Panagiotis Raftopoulos, Panagiotis Poriadis, Symeon Komninos, Konstantinos Mavroudes, Ioannis Palaiologos and Andron. Kymprpitis. Subsequently the Audit Committee was elected, comprising Messrs. Antonios Vasileiadis, Ioannis Kazolis and Ioannis Tsantilas. Its founding was recognised by the Court of First Instance of Athens on 28th April 1936, by virtue of Decision No. 3747.

The 57 members who voted in total were: Ioannis Kokolis, Christos Papalaskaris, Ioannis Kontogiannis, Nikolaos Fragkoulis, Panagiotis Poriadis, Dimitrios Tiganis, Antonios Lambadaridis, Theofanis Kefalas, Nikolaos Stefanou, Emmanuil Kriaris, Angelos Glykis, Angelos Kymprpitis, Christos Papazoglou, Evangelos Angelidis, Konstantinos Mavroudes, Antonios Vasileiadis, Vasil. Krikelaidis, Nikolaos Diamantaridis, Dimitrios Papadimitriou, Stamatis Doukas, Symeon Komninos, Tasos Kapsidelis, Nikolaos Kisemlis, Ioannis Tsantilas, Ioannis Palaiologos, Alexandros Lazaridis, Andreas Kymprpitis, Charalampos Chatzidakis, Nikolaos Chatzidakis, Alexandros Psarianos, Nikolaos Viglas, Fotios Stamateris, Charalampos Pantellaroudis, Dimitrios Kriaris, Efstratios Patsakis, Grigorios Chatzidakis, Panagiotis Raftopoulos, Nikolaos Grimbabis, Georgios Makris,

Kostas Laskaridis, Panagiotis Chatzoglou, Charalampos Kalogiannis, Georgios Louskos, Konstantinos Tsitsilias, Konstantinos Tsotroudes, Dimitra Skapeti, Ioannis Lantouris, Angelos Konstantoudis, Charalampos Agalias, Georgios Vomvas, Dimitris Steliou, Georgios Chagkias and Panag. Fragkoulis. We pass over the conditions under which the members of the Board of Administration subsequently worked to willingly assist every Lemnian whether residing in Athens and Piraeus or living in their homeland, for whatever matter. We content ourselves to say that the interest they showed toward every Lemnian without distinction was deeply moving. Among the aforementioned pioneers of progress and the founding of the Union of Lemnians we ought also to include Messrs. Antonios Papanikolaou, Sokratis Tsirimiris, Euripidis Laskaridis, Andreas Kalatzis, Mrs. Despoina Tsekura, Mrs. M. Mavropoulou, Miss Rinoula Pasou, Mrs. A. Mara, Ioannis Lantouris, F. Petras, E. Valsamas, Th. Ntininis and E. Levizos. Beyond their services to their compatriots, the members of the Board of Administration of the Union were concerned with and strove to promote and display their homeland Lemnos as an advanced and civilised island, for which reason they also interested themselves in its broader affairs. An indication of this is the memorandum submitted to the Government in June 1957 by its progressive and steadfast President Mr. Antonios Papanikolaou, in which the following were requested:

- 1) That Lemnos should constitute its own prefecture
- 2) That the harbour of Myrina should be included in the revision of the programme of state investments for the sum of 650,000 drachmas
- 3) That credit should be granted for road construction
- 4) That the Lake Chortarolimni should be drained
- 5) That a model winery should be established
- 6) That a fish market should be constructed
- 7) That the Island should acquire a Court of First Instance
- 8) That Agriculture and Livestock Farming should be subsidised
- 9) That an Agricultural School should be established
- 10) That the telephone network should be completed
- 11) That Children's Nurseries should be established
- 12) That a Health Station should be established in Moudros
- 13) That beekeeping should be developed in Lemnos
- 14) That the local Tourist Committee should be supported
- 15) That the archaeological finds of Lemnos should be returned to and housed in the Museum of Myrina
- 16) That Athletics in Lemnos should be supported, and
- 17) That workers' housing should be constructed.

As is well known to all, Lemnos has: 1) acquired a noteworthy Archaeological Museum; 2) the harbour of Myrina has been included in the revision of the programme of state investments by the present National Revolutionary Government of 21st April; 3) significant credit has been granted for road construction, for which reason new roads are being built at a swift pace and others are being laid out throughout the Island; 4) a model winery has already been established in the capital Myrina; 5) Lemnos has acquired an excellent telephone network; 6) the interest of the National Government in beekeeping is unqualified; 7) Tourism in Lemnos has been significantly supported; 8) Athletics has

been supported more than at any time in the past; 9) Thanks to the wide-ranging programme of agricultural support of the National Revolutionary Government, the agricultural debts of the farmers of Lemnos were also written off during the cancellation of the agricultural debts of the whole of Greece, which amounted to the sum of 3,600,000 drachmas; 10) Lemnos, in addition to the enviable regular air service it acquired during the four-year governance of Greece by the National Revolutionary Government, has also acquired a new airport, perfect in every respect, at which aircraft of every type and among the largest may land, for which purpose the sum of 100,000,000 drachmas was allocated; and 11) At this very moment, in all the villages, numerous works are being executed at a very swift pace, especially road and land improvement works.

Today the "Union of Lemnians of Athens and Piraeus," thanks to the tireless efforts of its President Mr. Antonios Papanikolaou and the other members of the Board of Administration, welcomes every Lemnian to an own property, spacious building in the centre of Athens, offered as a "Lemnian Shelter" divided into:

- 1) a Cultural, Artistic and Recreational Centre for Young People;
- 2) a Nature Lovers' Organisation;
- 3) a Library and Reading Room for students; and
- 4) a Hostel for the accommodation of destitute Lemnians who come to Athens for admission to medical institutions.

The inauguration of the Lemnian Shelter took place on 18th November 1962. Many dignitaries and a large gathering from the Lemnian community were present at it, and congratulatory letters and telegrams were received by the President of the Union Mr. Antonios Papanikolaou from the then Minister Grigorios Kasimatis, from the Prefect of Lesbos Mr. G. Lygerakis, from His Eminence the Metropolitan of Lemnos Panteleimon, from the Prefect of Lemnos Mr. Ioannis Trovas, from the Military Commander of Lemnos, from the Inspector of Primary Schools Mr. Antonios Velissarios, from the Mayor of Myrina Mr. Anastasios Papas, from the Office of Social Welfare of Lemnos, from the lawyer and director of the newspaper "LEMNOS" Mr. Emmanuil Konstantinidis, from the Commercial Association of Lemnos, and from the President and Secretary of the Parents' and Guardians' Association of Gymnasium Students of Lemnos, Mr. Savvas Korakas and Mr. Angelos Glykis.

On 30th June 1969, with the goal of promoting tourism on the Island, the Union of Lemnians of Athens-Piraeus hosted a lavish dinner for distinguished Athenians and select Lemnians, during which the President of the Union Mr. Antonios Papanikolaou spoke and after him two great and sincere friends of Lemnos, the journalist Mr. Dimitrios Chronopoulos, whose address runs as follows:

"It was not an omission on the part of the journalistic world not to have concerned itself also with your beautiful homeland, Lemnos. There were two reasons why colleagues delayed in their duty and obligation in this regard. Lemnos, being situated at the outermost point of the Archipelago, was not accessible to us because of communications, and secondly, historically speaking, it was perhaps not so well known. I am trying to bring to mind at this moment the efforts which you personally, Mr. President, made in the past, when our acquaintance began, for the advancement and resolution of matters concerning this beautiful place, and in retrospect I fully justify your great love for this place.

"Mr. President, with your address this evening I must confess you have brought all those present very close to your beautiful homeland. You made us know every inch of it, its life, its history, its civilisation. You have made us — I tell you this without exaggeration — love it as you yourself love it. I know very well that I shall encounter your modesty; however, it would be a great omission on my part if I concluded without congratulating you on your initiative to present your island to us, as well as on the many-faceted work being accomplished by your splendid association under the present administration, work which few administrations of associations like yours have to show.

Mr. President, you said that Lemnos deserves the LIGHT. We promise to give it both the LIGHT and the Love which this evening it has conquered through your beautiful address"; and also, the journalist Mr. Dionysios Avramopoulos, who "moved, said the following: 'Lemnos, the last bastion of our island world toward the Straits, is inhabited by brave and civilised people. I was fortunate enough to visit Lemnos twice. The first time during the tragic accident of 9th September 1939, and I saw then with what fortitude the inhabitants of the island faced the tragedy that struck it. The second time I visited the island as a member of the Sacred Battalion, bringing freedom to it. The civilised reception that was given to us then bears witness to the nobility of the Lemnian soul. I always carry with brilliant emotion in my memory those simple people who surrounded us with feelings of love and endeavoured in every way, as we arrived, to make our stay on their island more comfortable and pleasant. I always remember this interlude of my life in your noble homeland, which deserves the love of all of us. Mr. President, I congratulate you and the Administration of the "Union" for the work being accomplished which honours you, the administration and your compatriots who stand by it and support it. An association so small has accomplished so much and so much that is great: its own premises, a Student Hall of Residence, etc. I wish your work may find imitators.

"I propose a toast to the health of all of you, of the Lemnian Community, as well as of all Lemnians, of whom I retain a fine memory. And once again we congratulate you."

At the dinner hosted on 5th June 1969 for journalists of daily Athenian newspapers involved with Greek Tourism, in addition to the two aforementioned speakers there were also present Messrs. A. Papadopoulos with his wife, Frixos Iliadis with his wife, I. Oikonomou, T. Tsirmbinos, A. Kilis and Miss Emmy Panagou, Emmanuil Konstantinidis with his wife and daughter, the architect Chrysoula, as a veteran journalist of Lemnos, and Dimitrios Psomadellis, director and owner of the respected weekly newspaper "Lesvos" of Athens, which for years has taken a sympathetic interest in all matters relating without exception to the Union of Lemnians of Athens-Piraeus and more generally to the island of Lemnos.

Thus, in the newspaper "Lesvos" of 30th June 1969, Mr. Dim. Psomadellis published, among other things, the following regarding the activity of the President and members of the Board of Administration of the Union: ... "And first it acquired its own premises at 39 Geraniou Street, consisting of a meeting hall with a capacity of 120 persons, a private office

and a Student Hall of Residence, in which eight destitute Lemnian students are housed entirely free of charge. From 1961 to the present, 42 destitute Lemnians have been housed. It sent 1,500 volumes of books to the Municipality of Myrinians for the operation of a Municipal Library, it assisted the student canteens of the district in the past, it sent clothing for the destitute of Lemnos, and it procured children's books, Physics and Chemistry apparatus, Nature Study charts, Maps and globes for the Primary Schools of Pedinon and Fyssini. It displayed exceptional interest in local issues and took particular care for the tourist promotion of the island of Lemnos."

LEMNIAN SCHOLARS SETTLED IN ATHENS

Apostolos Iliadis: Radiologist, Supervisor at General Hospital of Piraeus.

Ioannis Raftopoulos: Doctor — Cardiologist.

Ioannis Tsantilas: Director of Pathology Clinics of the Greek Red Cross Hospital.

Ioannis Michail: Doctor, Orthopaedic Surgeon — Director.

Athanasios Savvouras: Physician — Gynaecologist.

Hippocrates Savouras: Doctor of Veterinary Medicine — Director of the Blue Cross.

Konstantinos Koutsogiannis: Pathologist.

Konstantinos Vafeas: Architect — Civil Engineer.

Simos Komninos: Gymnasium Headmaster.

Dimitrios Kaldis: Lawyer, Director of the "Tax Legislation Bulletin."

Emmanuel Kaldis: Civil Engineer. Christoforos Kaldis: Naval Architect.

Evangelia Katsikogiannis: Physician, Gynaecologist.

Eleftherios Papatotiriou: Lawyer. Stratos Papaeustratiou: Lawyer.

Mairi Lambadaridou: Poetess and Author. Alkestis Karastavrou: Poetess and Singer.

Varvara Chamliou: Dentist. Elissavet Chamliou: Physician, Microbiologist.

Evangelos Tsoukalos: Architect, Civil Engineer.

Emmanuel Baxevanaris: Physician, Pathologist — pulmonary diseases.

Dimitrios Zelinis: Veterinarian. Chrysoula Emm. Konstantinidou: Architect.

Eleftheria Emm. Konstantinidou: Professor of English Literature.

Emmanuel Anton. Lambadaridis: Civil Engineer.

Mary Nikol. Karavia: Civil Engineer. Dimitrios Nikol. Kisemlis: Professor of Mathematics.

Stefanos Apostolou Papadopoulos: Physician.

Ioannis Pertsas: Civil Engineer.

Pavlina Gerontoudis: Professor of English.

Ourania Vagiakos: Professor of English.

Pipitsa Pantellaroudis: Professor of English.

Nana Theoph. Karavia: Professor of English.

Giolanda Karastavrou: Lawyer.

ON THE ASSOCIATION OF LEMNIANS OF THESSALONIKI "HEPHAESTUS"

Worthy of distinction is also the truly exceptional activity developed by the few Lemnians who settled in Thessaloniki after the Second World War.

After the founding of their Association, they did not rest on their laurels. They worked and toiled like tireless worker bees, so that they might acquire their own hive — which they duly achieved.

The Association of Lemnians of Thessaloniki "HEPHAESTUS" is now housed in the club premises at 91 Megalou Alexandrou Street, the inauguration of which took place on 23rd March 1969. All the Lemnians of the co-capital attended without exception, as did many from the distinguished society of their city.

In September of the same year, on the initiative of members of the Board of Administration of the Association, a Lemnian dance troupe made an enthusiastic impression on all foreign visitors to the 34th Thessaloniki Exhibition, as well as on Lemnians who came to the city from all the provinces of Greece.

Those who made up the dance troupe, and especially those who take the lead at all times in such events, Messrs. Spyros Pantelias, Takis Savvouras and Charalampos Charos, wearing the picturesque costume of the "kiachagias," contributed greatly to the tourist promotion of their homeland Lemnos in Northern Greece and to the moral encouragement of their progressive compatriots, members of the Association of Lemnians "HEPHAESTUS" of Thessaloniki.

The following month, specifically on 8th October, the progressive members of "HEPHAESTUS" celebrated festively at the club premises of the Association the anniversary of the liberation of Lemnos from the Turkish yoke, and an inspired and patriotic address was delivered by the lawyer from Myrina and beloved by all, Mr. Komninos Tsoukas, who was greeted with enthusiastic applause by all.

Among the progressive Lemnians of Thessaloniki we are obliged to mention the lawyer Mr. Emmanuil Kalakos from the village of Repanidion, the philology professor Mr. Vasileios Papadimitriou, Mr. Emmanuil Vogiatzis, Mr. Vasileios Vareltsis, Mr. Panagiotis Zouros, Mr. Spyros Zouros, the well-established property owner Mr. Sakellaropoulos, his son Mr. Takis Sakellaropoulos, Mr. Ioannis Vouridis, Mr. Evangelos Manos, and his son Mr. Emmanuil Manos.

TWO POETESSES

In the community of Lemnians of Attica — many of whom we were unable to include by name in the present edition because purely technical reasons of the printing house precluded this — a prominent place is occupied by two well-known poetesses: Miss Mary Kleovoulou Lambadaridou, who is also an author, and Mrs. Alkestis Karastavrou, née Danezis, who is also a singer, being endowed with a voice universally acknowledged as excellent, and furthermore an artist with exceptional achievement in painting.

For her exceptional vocal gifts, as is known, she was awarded a prize by the National

Conservatory of Athens, which ranked her among the finest, equal in standing to RENATA TIPALDI. For her paintings, which made a great impression on all, the critics declared them comparable to those of the great painters; and our great philologist and man of letters, Foivos Delfis, enthused by the painting "Rose of the Flesh," congratulated Mrs. Alkestis Karastavrou as follows:

"To the many-faceted talent of the esteemed Mrs. Alkestis Karastavrou: Lover of life and of the warm colours of Titian and Veronese, I discover through sensation the miracle of April — the most expressive hands; you embody poetry."

From her very rich collection of poetry, which the charming and most gracious poetess is thinking of publishing, we offer the noble reader of the present volume seven of her poems, as follows:



Mrs. Alkestis Karastavrou, well-known poetess

TO MY GIOLANDA

You were born in Africa; thousandfold fair are your destinies.

Instead of bearing a complexion dark and sun-scorched,

You, from our shores, took their blue shade,

and are fashioned of seafoam.

And there in the Congo your thousandfold fair destinies came

and brought you our sun from the Parthenon,

and its golden gleams, shining like sovereigns,

they set upon you as a crown.

TO MY GIOLANDA

When you appear from afar, golden-crowned, like a sun that shines resplendent in the wide aether,
I smile proudly, marvelling at two suns, one in the sky, and you upon the throne of earth.

A CERTAIN APRIL FEAST - Alkestis of Lemnos

Little wayside chapels, my loves, harbours of my soul,
upon the partridge-calling, Lemnian hills,
with rushes and wild flowers, with the paintings of my earth,
little rocks wreathed with laurel; you are dear to my embrace.
Little wayside chapels, my loves, do you recall a certain evening,
in the calm that encircled the plain of Saint Elias, I was alone and I sang at a certain April feast,
and my choir was the birds of the plain.
And for incense we had the fragrances of the flowers,
the lilies, the myrtle trees and the willows, melodious fresh-springs sounded the lyre,
and the little lambs rang festive bells.

A CERTAIN DAY

A certain day I shall go, to the village where I came to know you,
to the flowering, fragrant meadow of our youth,
to the pure colours of our sky that adorned, the spring of our joy, the caress of our sun.
A certain day I shall go, to the village where I came to know you,
to the mountains draped with pride in snow by the north wind,
to the mountains adorned with priceless gifts, proud little partridges, willows and thyme.

A certain day I shall go, to the village where I came to know you,
to behold once more your little window,
and little flowers I shall pick from the garden you watered,
and let my tear fill the cup of the flowers.

Alkestis Ap. Karastavrou

LAMPO NA NTEKE (= Song of the Birds)

In a fairytale land far from my home, hospitable; ringed by arched rivers,
when I went and renounced my own world, incurable longings of exile encircled me.
Among the lions I wandered, in the virgin forests that held a mysterious and otherworldly silence.
The butterflies I love I enjoyed sadly, fluttering gleefully and carefree together.

In that far-distant land there was no chamomile, nor blossoming lilac trees, nor frankincense tree,
nor humble little churches where lips would murmur in fragrant stillness a gentle greeting.
There were no laughing ears of grain, simply golden-clad,
resembling a sea dyed the color of gold, a Paradise established by blessed little hands
in our sweet creation — a painting by Rembrandt.
There was nothing like our Lemnos, nor like Athens,
with their dawn smiles in the embrace of the earth,
nor like Olympus, mountains of Gods with lilies whose peaks scatter a golden radiance.
There were no rushes and myrtles, thyme and myrtle-shrub,
pines leaning on the slopes, knightly irises.
There were musical little birds that, in the stillness, together with me sang sweetly of my pain.

When Alone I Stand on the Shore at Flisvos

When alone I find myself on the shore at Flisvos, and its musical murmur softly sings to me,
when the sun already leans toward the mountain gradually,
and its golden face has vanished completely.
A magical nostalgia gently carries me to paths adorned with flowering laurels,
leading my steps to ruined churches, to half-faded Virgin icons, crumbling little gates.
It carries me to the half-fallen palaces of Vondyla
before the broad sea, the smooth expanse toward Athos,
to the blossoming garden, to the river's wide reaches,
to our humble little house that weeps and calls for us. Its magical breeze spreads its music,
like a tender hand caressing me softly, and upon its holy soil, on the low balcony
entwined with the pink climbing rose of our life, skipping about, I become the carefree little girl
under the roof from which I used to send my prayer aloft,
I begin my song with a small guitar, and... your sweet second voice, my father, resounds.

BITTER FATE

The chief shepherd's son, Lambros the Gallant,
who was the Lord of the Mountain and the village's master,
who was the sweet song of the reed flute's melody, who was the hidden longing of night and day,
who was in the village commons the lithe young deer

and the enviable horseman on his white steed —before the smile of dawn had turned rosy,
he would enter the fold to wake his animals.
In the gentle daybreak he would tend to his sheep,
along the path up the slope, he would call out to them fondly,
his sweet song he would begin for Chryso, and insatiably he would drink in the thyme-scented air.
But life seduced him in the midst of that nature,
his homeland cannot contain him, he goes to live abroad.
He grew weary of dripping his burning sweat, he was ashamed to wear the peasant's clothes.
And so one day suddenly he departed for foreign lands,
and left behind fields and mountains and tear-filled eyes.
His little white lambs, the green hillsides, his foam-white rivers, the cool little springs.
He left behind the lightning-struck high peaks,
he left behind mother and siblings down in the dry village.
The dark-winged birds, the clear air, and the sweet glances of the sun from beyond the ridge,
He left behind the sunlit waters, crystalline, the unforgettable dawns, the enchanted evenings.
The blond summers, the grapes of the plain, the orphaned lips of poor Chryso.
He left behind his plow, his draft animals, the Golden Gleamings in the trees below.
The laughing summer, the cicada as lead singer, the colorful wild field, the blossoms of the poppy —
the moonlight, the laughter, his life; the thorns, the thistles, his flowering earth.
The sunsets, the wretched little flute, the flower-branches that perfumed the air with fragrance.
He left behind the Summit-Mountains adorned with asphodel,
the partridge-calling mountains of sacred Lemnos.
He left behind his nightingales in the thorny brambles to sing melodiously of the heart's youth.
The blossoming wild vine, the goat-weed, the rush, the evening of the return to that village.
He left behind the smile of the shy young girl, the witch-bat, the flutter of madness,
and the shrill herding call that echoed on the mountain
from another shepherd boy as he drove his flock.
The beloved dreams in the shade of the reeds, the midday rest of the animals in the kiosks.
His May, his April with all their flowers, his crook that he would embrace and begin his songs,
the cool plane trees down by the cold water, mother earth's embrace, the guileless dove.
But... where can he find what he has lost in this foreign land?
He asks for much and, insatiable, wanders trying to grasp it...
And while he sees his sweet dreams shattered to pieces,

Death arrives suddenly in the dark foreign lands, he covets the offspring of Mitrena the Sardiani,
and stretches out his merciless scythe to take him —
And his sun-ripened body it extinguishes with fury,
down in the cold depths, it takes him and does not release him.
Desolate now, the mountains seek their Lambros.
And the woodland spirits in the ravines whisper of him.
In the haunted evenings they mourn his passing.
And they say that bitter was his fate.
Ah, once as I was passing by, through the Plain beyond, where poor Lambros used to play his flute,
it seemed to me that I heard his melody again, and unbidden my tear rolled down slowly.

Alkestis of Lemnos (Danézi) — Karastavrou

THE EARTHQUAKE OF FEBRUARY 1968

On the night of the 19th to 20th February, at around one-thirty in the morning, a powerful earthquake of the eighth degree of intensity, lasting 24 seconds, shook the islands of Lemnos and Agios Efstratios, the latter being completely destroyed. The epicenter is marked with a dot within a small circle, very close to Agios Efstratios. The earthquake was most strongly felt on Agios Efstratios, in the village of Pedino on Lemnos, and in the capital of Lemnos, Myrina. The inhabitants of these places, awakened and terrified, rushed out of their homes and, despite the bitter cold of that night, remained outdoors throughout the night. The number of homeless reached 600 on Agios Efstratios, and 150 in the village of Pedino on Lemnos — which suffered more than the other villages on Lemnos — who, by order of the Prefect, Mr. Dorkofiki, were housed in homes in the neighboring villages of Pourtianou, Nea Koutali, and Karyones.

The damages caused to the two islands by the earthquake was as follows: 20 dead, 20 seriously injured, 21 lightly injured, 200 homeless families, 275 houses completely destroyed, 400 houses dangerously damaged and uninhabitable, and 3,000 houses with cracks. In the capital Myrina, 15 houses collapsed and serious damage was sustained by the Metropolitan Mansion, the Eparchy offices, the Police Station, the ETHNIKON hotel, and 40 homes.

On the following day, 21st February 1968, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior, Mr. Stylianos Pattakos, visited the two islands, traveling first by air to Lemnos and then to Agios Efstratios. The Greek State was demonstrating for the first time such great and abundant concern and care for earthquake victims. Many were so moved that they either shed tears or wept openly, seeing the Deputy Prime Minister of the National Government of 21st April 1967, who within a few hours of the earthquake had personally brought tents, food, and clothing for all those affected without exception, comforting and supporting the wounded, or the bereaved women weeping and sobbing — perhaps because for the first time in the history of Lemnos, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Greek Government himself was caring for them.

After the passage of one year and five months, the Lemnians enthusiastically welcomed the same Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Stylianos Pattakos, accompanied by his wife and daughter, at the airport, from which he proceeded with the Prefect of Lesbos, Mr. Dorkofiki, the island authorities and his entourage, to the village of Pedino, where the assembled crowd gave him an unprecedented reception.

After the address by the President of the Pedino Community and the brief speech by the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Mr. Mexis — who underlined the altogether exceptional activity developed by the various services in providing housing for those affected by the earthquake at Agios Efstratios and Pedino — the Deputy Prime Minister of the National Government and Minister of the Interior, Mr. Stylianos Pattakos, took the floor and warmly congratulated the services for the speed with which they had operated, so as to resettle those stricken by the



His Excellency the Vice President of the Government and Minister of the Interior, during his visit to Lemnos following the devastating earthquake of February 1968, comforting the earthquake-stricken young lady Kleoniki Georgiadou.

earthquake at Agios Efstratios and Lemnos so quickly in newly-built homes, after which the lottery for the houses began, the first lots being drawn by the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Stylianos Pattakos himself.

Thus, the inhabitants of Agios Efstratios and Pedino were installed on 19th July 1969 in newly-built earthquake-resistant homes, constructed according to plan on a site located very close to their former village, for which purpose the sum of 50,000,000 drachmas was allocated.

THE STATUE OF MAROULA

On the height of “Kotzinas,” the former fortress situated in the Bay of Bourniá, on 7th September 1969, the Military Commander of Lemnos, Colonel Mr. Georgios Ladonikolaos, unveiled the statue of the legendary heroine of Lemnos, Maroula, while military units drawn up in formation and the Municipal Philharmonic Orchestra rendered the prescribed honors.

At the unveiling ceremony there were present the staff officers of the Military Commander, the Prefect with all the directors of the various public services, and many thousands of Lemnians from all the villages.

After a most moving speech by the Military Commander, who unveiled Maroula to the strains of the National Anthem, the Inspector of Primary Education, Mr. Panagopoulos, spoke, praising the courage and heroism of this true daughter of Lemnos, as well as the initiative of the Teachers’ Association in wishing to immortalize Maroula with a statue at the very spot where, drawing her sword, she attacked with incomparable self-sacrifice and heroism against innumerable barbaric enemies, whom she defeated and routed, glorifying her small homeland, Lemnos, as no other had done.

After the Inspector Mr. Panagopoulos, the President of the Lemnos Teachers’ Association, Mr. Arist. Valakos, spoke — he who had taken the initiative and at the same time displayed praiseworthy activity toward the goal that Lemnians should see realized their dream and ardent desire, namely,



On 25 March 1968, one month after the devastating earthquake, the Prefect of Lemnos, Mr. Evangelos Varlámis, and behind him to his left the Director of the Social Services Office, wearing a hat, Mr. Georgios Mantzaris, next to him on the right the Director of the Meteorological Station, Mr. Angelos Glykis, behind the Prefect the Inspector of Primary Education, Mr. Anastasios Panagopoulos, the Mayor of Myrina, Mr. Alekos Fergadiotis, the President of the Municipal Council, Mr. Iosif Atzamis, and the Municipal Councillors Messrs. Aristofanis Lambadaridis, Phot. Stefanidakis, and Mich. Imvriotis.

to honor in gratitude the heroine who had brought them glory, with a statue of her upon the Kotzinos fortress. The artistic creation of the statue the Lemnos Teachers' Association had entrusted carte blanche, two years previously, to the veterinarian Hippocrates Savouras, who had offered to make and donate it FREE OF CHARGE, as a small token of his gratitude and admiration for Maroula and of his love for his homeland Lemnos.

On the importance of the unveiling ceremony, as well as on the amateur sculptor — and director and publisher of the newspaper “Lemnian Cry” — Dr. Hippocrates Savouras, who created the bronze statue three meters high and weighing 300 kilograms, the Athens daily newspapers “Nea Politeia,” “Apogevmatini,” and “Ethnos” published related articles with photographs.

Concerning the Battle of Kotzinos and the bravery of Lemnos's heroine Maroula, the History of the Greek Nation by Papparigopoulos also writes at length; while the greatest of contemporary poets, the late, lamented Kostis Palamas, dedicated these divine verses:

“Oh, what dream, what angel of the Lord,
scattered courage on the Island and the fearlessness of a beast?
The dream and the angel is Maro alone.
As if leading them to a dance, she leads them into battle.
But Lemnos's tender-hearted girl is no longer
the one who used to scold the lonely woman and the boy.
Her beauty is a lightning bolt and a warrior's light,
and the revenge of her words a wholly sweet mystery.
And all who hear her feel an undying urge
to go forth with her and fall with her for the Homeland.”

GREECE FROM THE ELECTIONS OF 1963 - UNTIL THE RADIANT 21st OF APRIL 1967

The misfortune, that is the misery and wretchedness, began in Greece from the moment the then Prime Minister, Mr. Konstantinos Karamanlis, in order to please his worthless political opponent, the demagogue Georgios Papandreou, agreed to allow Papandreou's unpatriotic son Andreas Papandreou to come from America.

That chivalrous favor of Mr. Karamanlis proved to be the beginning of the accumulation of countless misfortunes to the detriment of Greece. The collaboration of the elderly father with his Pan-Slavist son became the cause of the degradation and humiliation of the Greek homeland within

a very short space of time. We prophesied this immediately and declared it publicly, because we had come to know Georgios Papandreou personally in 1935, when he visited our village of Kontia and insisted that we be summoned from our farmstead so that he might meet us and ask what we wished for the good of our village. He promised us pompously, within earshot of most of the inhabitants, that he would make every possible effort to have the Monastic Estate “Christos” of approximately 380 stremmata re-expropriated for the benefit of the Community, as having been wrongly distributed to landless cultivators. This was the favor we asked of him. Unfortunately, not only did he show no interest, despite the repeated rallies and entreaties of the villagers, but on the contrary he himself repeatedly torpedoed this vital issue of what was then the largest village on the Island. Why? Because the then Board of Directors of the Cooperative of Landless Cultivators of Kontia, through the mouth of its Secretary, Heraklis Neres, told him: “Mr. Papandreou, Gerontoudis is a Lemnian from abroad. He comes to spend his summer and leaves in September. From us who are permanent residents you have at least 95 definite votes, since most of them have either adult children or friends whom they can influence.” Later, as all of Greece knows, Georgios Papandreou was called “He Will” and “Snake-oil Salesman,” meaning a demagogue, fickle, inconsistent, “windbag,” “conman,” “soap bubble,” and “trickster,” because, driven by a mania for power, he resorted to every dishonest means against those in government. Regarding his political career in general, and especially his irresponsibility, so much has been written and he has been satirized as a politician so extensively — as no other politician ever so publicly and completely failed in his entire political life. This is amply demonstrated by the fact that, having been active in politics for fifty years, never once at the parliamentary elections held did the Greek people entrust him with the governance of Greece.

World history will not be slow to record that the units that mutinied on 1st April 1944 in Egypt among the land and naval forces were instigated and organized by that very Georgios Papandreou, because following the resignations of the governments of Tsouderos and Sophocles Venizelos, the most opportune moment presented itself to him to coerce the Allies into entrusting him with the formation of a new government, which he indeed achieved.

The following month at the Lebanon Conference of 14th May 1944, as we know, he agreed that five representatives of the communist P.E.E.A. should participate in the government formed under him. On 18th October 1944, the Government of the ‘Liberation’ arrived in Greece, coming from Taranto, and its president Georgios Papandreou delivered his memorable speech in Syntagma Square before an audience composed almost entirely of EAM-ELAS supporters, who had mobilized all the workers from the factories and all the vagabonds. Here is what the eyewitness, the late, lamented Colonel Nikolaos Antonakeas, writes about this speech in his book “Light into the Darkness of the Occupation”:

“... Georgios Papandreou from the balcony of the Ministry of Communications delivered that famous speech of his, which proved to be the ‘swan song’ of Greece. He extolled Democracy and confessed his belief in it. He roused, by means of that speech, the criminal desires and appetites of the crowd of EAM-Communists and drove them toward the realization of their abominable aims. He

did not fail to denounce the Public Security forces and in particular the heroic and sorely-trying Gendarmerie. To denounce the University, the Court of Cassation, the Council of State, and all the highest intellectual institutions of the Country.

In that speech of his, the Prime Minister of the 'liberation' called the historic and glorious period of the 4th of August a period of slavery. He called a period of slavery that most resplendent era during which Greece reached the pinnacle of its glory. He called thus, finally, that radiant period of the spirit which, in moments of supreme national crisis and need, and for the salvation of Greece, having been created and having abolished the nation-destroying party regime of that era, which had become discredited and bankrupt in the conscience of the Greek People, saved and glorified Greece."



The fateful man for Greece, Georgios Papandreou, inspects the slaughterers of his Greek brethren.

From that moment Greece was officially handed over to the disposition of EAM-Communism. The criminal ELAS fighters were clothed with police duties. Their notorious Civil Guard became an official police organ of the State. Army units, divisions, and regiments of ELAS vagabonds arriving in the Capital were garrisoned in various state and private buildings. The Ministries and State Services were transformed into communist dens. Enormous communist flags bearing the hammer and sickle as symbol covered the façades of state buildings. Triumphal arches and all manner of advertising billboards of the ELAS men were provocatively erected and hung in many parts of Athens and Piraeus.

Papandreou's minister, Panagis Kanellopoulos, sent by him to the Peloponnese, disarmed the Security Battalions and provided their weapons to the hordes of the ELAS commander Aris Velouchiotis, with whom he appeared embracing on balconies in Patras, Pyrgos, and Tripolis, and immortalized his own 'personality' through the camera alongside that of the bloodthirsty criminal Velouchiotis.

It was not long before the daily provocative demonstrations and cannibalisms began. To this end all the refugee settlements were mobilized, not excepting the Armenians and Gypsies. All the brothels and the entire underworld of Greece were on their feet. From that crowd nothing else was heard during the marches but "Kapa-Kapa-Epsilon" (KKE), E.A.M." and "Democracy and No King."

A few days later disagreements began between the EAM Ministers and Mr. Papandreou. Armed demonstrations by ELAS men took place to impose various outlandish demands. Bloody clashes occurred and casualties resulted among innocent civilians. The communists, taking advantage of such incidents, which they themselves provoked, staged — as always according to their method — funerals for persons whom they themselves had murdered, recruited professional 'mourning-women,' dressed women in black, and created all manner of unrest and upheaval in the Capital, so as to arrive swiftly at the bloody December.



Fires and Arson in the Centre of Athens

General Roland Scobie demanded the dissolution of the Resistance Units, in accordance with the Caserta Agreement. However, the ringleaders of ELAS refused to fulfill this condition, demanding instead the dissolution of the Security Forces, the Rimini Brigade, and the Sacred Band. The EAM Ministers resigned, and the clash between the ELAS men and the National Forces became ever more evident and inevitable.

About this ruinous first Government under Georgios Papandreou, not only did Colonel Mr. Nikolaos Antonakeas write, but hundreds of historians, military men, and politicians. Impartial

defenders of his, Greeks imbued with genuinely Greek feelings, DO NOT EXIST. There are decayed contrarian spirits, admirers of his rhetorical brilliance, and shameful opportunists who voted for him in order to be served by him afterward in various ways.



The treacherous communist 'Lambrakis Youth' in action

He became Prime Minister for the second time after the fateful elections of November 1963, in which the coalition of all the Centre parties (E.K.) won 138 seats and the “National Radical Union” (E.R.E.) under Konstantinos Karamanlis won 132, this being because his unbridled slander and demagogic promises swept away naïve and simple voters, who did not stop to consider how much, at that moment through their vote, they were harming the Greek Nation.

But even then, the prime ministership would not have been entrusted to him, had the leader of the largest party of the Liberals, Sophocles Venizelos — who walked out of the meeting of the opposition party leaders who had formed the conspiratorial Centre Union against Mr. Konstantinos Karamanlis, owing to the disagreement that had arisen among the party leaders over the allocation of the various Ministries — not departed.

Had the leader of the Liberal Party, the late, lamented Sophocles Venizelos, who had stormed out primarily against Georgios Papandreou, gone immediately upon leaving the meeting room to meet with Mr. Konstantinos Karamanlis, and told him “STRIKE ME BUT HEAR ME OUT,” so as to cooperate with him and with the leader of the Progressive Party, Mr. Spyros Markezinis, the vigorous Greece of the Karamanlis era would not have found itself shortly afterward in rags, bleeding, and half-dead inside a grave, as we shall see below.

After the departure of the late, lamented leader of the Liberals, Sophocles Venizelos, the “Trickster” easily persuaded the others to entrust him with the prime-ministership, since this was also the wish of the treacherous communist party EDA, without whose support Georgios

Papandreou could not govern.

Here is how the radio station of the treacherous communist party of Greece (K.K.E.), operating from behind the Iron Curtain, was advising and urging on Georgios Papandreou in one of its broadcasts:

“The E.D.A. can not only give him an independent majority but can also make him strong enough to accomplish the work of democratization of the country in accordance with the pre-election promises given by him and the E.D.A. leaders, and for which the people gave them 61%, so that Karamanlis would not return to power. Elections — E.D.A. would have no objection to their being held, but they would have meaning if held later, when the Centre Union Government had completed the de-Karamanlization of the state mechanism and the revision of the electoral registers in accordance with its promises to the Greek people. Now the only democratic, parliamentary, realistic solution is to rely on the forces of the left, together with which it won the majority of 61% of the people’s votes.”



Behold how the Greek agents of communism were fanatically inciting our youth, and even the secondary school students themselves.

And relying on the treacherous EDA, the fellow-traveler Prime Minister undermined the whole Country. He left not one stone upon another. He began, at EDA’s demand, with the National Armed Forces, without his Greek conscience being troubled in the least.

The downward path therefore upon which Georgios Papandreou was being dragged by the communist EDA and by his Trotskyite son Andreas was very slippery, which is why he also lost control of his actions, having become a tool of the communist Mafia and of his son, who once showed remorse but never repentance.

Rapidly thereafter followed the calamities heaped upon the Nation by him and his treacherous collaborators, calamities already referred to in the history of Greece as catastrophic.

This history records his collaboration with the treacherous EDA prior to the elections of 16th

February 1964. This it considers an unprecedented political stigma, dishonoring both him and the party leaders who conspired with him against Mr. Konstantinos Karamanlis.

All of them were dishonored by the EDA leader, Pasalidis, when, addressing the then Prime Minister Georgios Papandreou, he said in anger and rage: “We put you in Power,” meaning the pre-financing of the Centre Union Members of Parliament by the treacherous communist party of Greece, camouflaged as E.D.A.

This moral slap was borne with complete indifference by both the “Snake-oil Salesman” Prime Minister of Greece and his collaborators within the Greek Parliament, and not in private!!!

After all this, what can we say about the subsequent conduct of the... Prime Minister Georgios Papandreou, his son Andreas, the treacherous E.D.A., and his other collaborators?

Regarding the conspiratorial organization ASPIDA, whose purpose was the overthrow of the regime, for which reason it was openly defended by the communists?



Young Lambrakis supporters cool off in the artificial lake of Omonia, after an exhausting rally in support of the “democracy of the pavement”, which was being stirred up by E.K. (Centre Union) and E.D.A. (United Democratic Left).”

Regarding the anarchic manifestations of the youth, the students, the “noble young men” of the Centre Union, the Lambrakists, and the Builders, which were organized and directed by cadres of the treacherous E.D.A.?

Regarding the subversive publications and proclamations of the communists against the crowned Democracy?

Regarding the Marathon March and the outrages at Gorgopotamos?

Regarding the “Pericles Plan”?

Regarding the squandering of public money?

Regarding the appointments of thousands of supporters of the Centre Union [E.K.], or regarding the communist danger, which was pointed out by everyone — and first of all by Mr. Panagiotis Kanellopoulos, who had succeeded Konstantinos Karamanlis — repeatedly, as follows:

On the 7th of February 1965, within the Parliament: *"Communism, having been gnawing away at everything for years, has now been officially proclaimed even within the national assembly as the arbiter of our political affairs. The hour has come to declare the necessity of defending the Constitution."*

On the 20th of February 1965: *"Invisibly insidious, communism infiltrates everywhere and gradually prevails, without even affording the opportunity of an open frontal battle against it. In our schools, our children — tomorrow's soldiers — are being recruited into communist organisations, into foreign fanatical ideologies, without teachers and instructors being encouraged to mount a pedagogical resistance to this evil. On the contrary, networks of informers have been organised within the schools, who intimidate and denounce every teacher who wishes to fulfil his Greek duty."*

On the 10th of April 1966: *"Ever since communism developed, it has been attempting to corrupt every national cause. It corrupted the Resistance during the Occupation, and today it is corrupting the Cypriot struggle."*

. . . Apart from the leader of the largest party of right-minded, nationally-minded Greeks, Mr. Panagiotis Kanellopoulos, the gravest danger posed by communism was also highlighted by many other political figures, both Greek and foreign, whose statements and publications were daily printed by all the serious newspapers of Greece.

Since Prime Minister Georgios Papandreou systematically never replied, we, indignant, addressed to him through the *"Panhellenic National Enlightenment Review"* **"ETHNIKON FOSS"** of the Athens politician and ultra-nationalist activist Mr. Athanasios Thomopoulos, the following open letter:

Myrina, 9 – 7 – 1966

Mr. Papandreou, I, the **Greek People**, having been misled and swept away by your pre-election sermons and the enticing promises you scattered lavishly from the balconies of many cities, towns, villages, and crossroads, gave you 53% of my votes in the elections of February 1964.

In this way I entrusted to you the governance of the Greek State and ignored the Greek politician Mr. Konstantinos Karamanlis, who had toiled for eight years to develop, present, and hand over to you a Greece worthy of its name.

Today I, the GREEK PEOPLE, confess that I proved most ungrateful, and for that I am sorry and grieved. Mr. Papandreou, who is responsible and accountable for the pitiable situation into which I have fallen? Look at the cost of living, the troubled commercial transactions, the deadlock in which industries of every kind have found themselves, the wretchedness of the abuses in Education, the contempt shown toward the Security Forces, and the bullying by members of parliament.

You, who boasted of greater capabilities than Mr. Karamanlis — why did you not present an increase, however slight, in the sum of 2,500,000,000 drachmas on the day you verbally submitted your resignation?

Instead of that, why did you present a deficit of approximately one thousand five hundred million drachmas — and not only that, but also issued new banknotes to the value of two billion drachmas?

What other Prime Minister of Greece squandered a sum of four thousand million drachmas so recklessly on partisan purposes and other extravagances in such a short span of time?

How many thousands are the party friends and relatives scandalously appointed by you and your son — including your daughter-in-law Mrs. Margaret and her private secretary — to various state and non-state positions, it being well known that to the Agricultural Bank alone he appointed, at a single stroke, some eight hundred persons, over the protests of the Deputy Governor Mr. Pepelasis?

The text of Deputy Governor Mr. Pepelasis's letter — why do you avoid placing it before my eyes? Does this refusal of yours not constitute contempt and provocation toward me, the GREEK PEOPLE, and toward morality?

Is this your Democracy, the pure one?

2) Why, in your declaration required by the Law on Declaration of Assets (*Pothen Esches*), did you not include all your assets? Does this omission of yours not expose you as "a teacher who taught but did not himself keep the law?" Or do you perhaps think I have forgotten that it was you who proposed the voting and application of this very law, in your endeavour to expose your political opponents — none of whom committed the offence which you, the Prime Minister, were the first to commit? Is this the democracy of yours that you wish to triumph?

3) What are the "condemnatory rulings and other proofs" relating to the charges and slanders which, in order to deceive me, the GREEK PEOPLE, you maliciously fired through your friendly press and in all your pre-election speeches against your political opponents? What are the incriminating elements against them that you managed to gather during your eighteen months of governance? Should you not have already placed these before my eyes, if you had any regard for yourself? What does this elementary omission of yours prove? That you mocked and deceived me in the worst possible manner, since all your political opponents, slandered by you and your friendly press, are INNOCENT — notwithstanding the STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS devised by the EDA leadership and yourself to mislead me, the GREEK PEOPLE, who know full well that if there had been any incriminating evidence against them, both you and the communist enemies of Greece would not have allowed the prosecution deadline to pass.

4) Why, although you know the meaning of the word *e u t h i x i a* [*touchiness*], did you not advise your son Andreas, as a father and as a conscientious politician, not to become actively involved in politics while you were Prime Minister? Were you not obliged, by the most basic political sensitivity, to counsel him to exercise a little patience? Universally, yes. Instead, why did you appoint him to ministerial posts twice — and after he had been twice exposed for the well-known contracts and the squandering of public funds, you were not only not troubled or outraged, but you went so far as to allow him — and as is widely reported — to install a telephone even in his *cabinet* [toilet]? And the crowning irony: by what right did this son of yours, your evil demon, in his endeavour to defame Greece before the Americans, take the audacity to recommend to the Government of the United States that it not grant financial assistance to Greece, on the grounds that the Government of Mr. Ste-

fanópoulos does not represent the Greek people but certain powerful financial interests and the influence of large economic conglomerates, as the authoritative newspaper the *New York Times* reported? Given this state of affairs, should he or should he not be regarded as extremely dangerous to the country, so that he may receive as quickly as possible his marching orders to Bulgaria — where, as soon as you resigned, a conference of the KKE leadership was convened at which it was decided that in the event of elections, EDA would support the Centre Union, on condition that in the event of victory your son would become Prime Minister, in favour of whom the Bulgarian Prime Minister Zhivkov also expressed himself favourably?

Mr. Papandreou, what do you say to all of this? Was this act of your son, your evil genius — as a Greek, given that he claims to be a Greek — honourable or DISHONOURABLE?

Mr. Papandreou Why do you contemptuously call "fascists" millions of serious, law-abiding and peace-loving nationally-minded Greeks? What have they done and what do they do that you insult and slander them in this unseemly manner before me, the GREEK PEOPLE, who know and weigh all persons and all things? Why do you imitate to perfection the parliamentary representative of the treacherous EDA, Elias Iliou, who springs to his feet in Parliament as if launched by a powerful spring, in order to call us "fascists" whenever he hears some member of parliament from the ranks of the nationally-minded right-thinking Greeks speak and inveigh against the international communist Mafia? Why, when both you and Iliou know that this insult of yours constitutes outright slander, do you delight in using it everywhere and always? Do you believe that by behaving in this way you can mislead me, hiding behind your finger?

Under Mr. K. Karamanlis, did you not conduct your *anéndotos* [relentless campaign] in complete freedom, and did you not select the electoral systems that suited your party, and did you not indicate the persons of your liking to form the governments for the holding of elections so as to make them unimpeachable?

On the day after the elections, the 16th of February AD 1963, did not Mr. K. Karamanlis hand power over to you in the most democratic manner? Was that the "fascist and police state" of Mr. Karamanlis, which — as you slanderously trumpeted — had "**Karamanlis-ified**" the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Security Forces, everyone and everything?

But then, why did he leave and not endeavour, as the all-powerful leader of the "fascists," to retain power, have himself proclaimed dictator, and arrest you, your collaborators and the EDA leadership in order to send you all off for, let us say, hydrotherapy to Ikaria? Why did he

do the exact opposite and hand power over to you "to make a complete mess of things," while he went abroad distressed, because I, the GREEK PEOPLE, had committed once again a great and unforgivable error? Is that the "fascist and police state" of Mr. K. Karamanlis?

The "*Pericles Plan*," which was worked out in order to deal, through our Army, with a potential Communist uprising — why did you betray it, slander it and render it useless? Simply? Because the underground enemies of Greece and your friends, the communists, asked it of you, and you hastened, as their now conscious instrument, to cheerfully bring this outrage also to completion. On the occasion, hear what three of the more serious newspapers testify against you — such as

the *Washington Star*, the Italian *Tempo*, and the German *National-Zeitung* — so that you may be convinced of how grieved and ashamed I am at the sorry state to which I, the GREEK PEOPLE, have come, tolerating an Ephialtes or Judas or Papandreou to appear on balconies and deliver windy speeches empty of content but full of insults, slanders, sophistry, and concealed communist satanic ambitions, underestimating in his incomparable insensibility both my intelligence and my Hellenic spirit.

"WASHINGTON STAR": "Mr. Papandreou, who is vain **BEYOND MEASURE**, has created turmoil; behind him stands his son Andreas, an ambitious, leftist former American citizen, who works with the communists and instigates the mob demonstrations in support of his father. Mr. Papandreou seeks to remove the conservative elements from the Army, which will open the way for an exceptionally dangerous communist infiltration into the armed forces."

"TEMPO": "The crisis has moved from governmental to constitutional, to the benefit of the communists, who have returned to the fore owing to the King–Papandreou conflict. It is certain that everything Mr. Papandreou is doing at this moment, whether willingly or blinded by vanity, resembles strikingly what the Buddhist 'BONZE' monks did in Vietnam."

"NATIONAL-ZEITUNG": "The dangerously tense situation in Greece would call for some moderation, especially on the part of Mr. Papandreou, who is playing a dangerous game, favouring — even if involuntarily — the interests of others, such as EDA, which today applauds, but for which in the end he can only be the 'necessary idiot' in the Stalinist dialect."

The expression "**necessary idiot**" was applied neither to **Enver Hotza** nor to any other leader of a communist terrorist dictatorship.

Mr. Papandreou, why during the year and a half of your frenzied premiership did you not dissolve the "**Lambrakis Youth**," as you had expressly promised to His Majesty the King? You claimed that "you had not had time!" The Lambrakis Youth Organisation is a purely communist, anti-Greek organisation, with associations in cities and villages operating without approved statutes — and therefore, since you had promised it to the King, it would have been very easy for you to proceed with at least this one good deed, to free me, together with the GREEK PEOPLE, from this plague and from this disgrace. Instead, you sought and succeeded in co-opting them, on condition that they would hasten to engage in all manner of provocations and outrages whenever you would summon them or shall summon them to surround you and applaud you during your public appearances — and particularly during the delivery of malicious speeches directed against your political opponents — or in order to engage in mob demonstrations, which you present as popular uprisings. A truthful witness, however, for me the GREEK PEOPLE and for History, is the photographic lens. In none of the photographs published in both your friendly newspapers and those of the opposition, taken during the mob demonstrations instigated by you, is any respectable middle-aged Greek to be discerned — only street urchins, Lambrakis Youth, and communists from all strata.

Mr. Papandreou, bearing in mind the ancient saying: "*To err twice is not the act of a wise man,*" I inform you that it is good and in your best interest to abandon all hope of a new appointment as Prime Minister.

From this moment I hand you back once more to your beloved adventurous politics, which you have faithfully followed throughout your entire political career.

I do not believe you are so forgetful as to have forgotten under how many banners of major parties you entered elections during your fifty-year political career, in order to garner a few of my votes, fearing you would fade away, that you would be lost — you, whom I have named the "huckster."

Five years ago, you also ran under the banner of the... "fascist" National Radical Union, to the founder and leader of which you proved, after the election, not only ungrateful but also a base politician. When throughout all of Greece, even on the islands themselves, you forbid the men of the Security Forces from doing their duty at the moment when your thugs are committing the most shameful outrages — in order to protect the Lambrakis Youth and the communists recruited for pay by you and your son — it is only you and the treacherous EDA who have an interest in wanting elections. I, the GREEK PEOPLE, under these conditions, do not want them.

Elections will take place when your praetorians cease to be unrestrained, when you cease to resort to the pavement because you are ashamed to enter the Greek Parliament, when the strike force — your vanguard, the Lambrakis Youth and Company — falls dormant, when internal peace is fully secured, and when your "noble young men" learn that only while you were Prime Minister were they permitted to publicly slap and punch prosecutors in the exercise of their duty to the Fatherland, and that when they are arrested by those same prosecutors and handed over to the Gendarmerie, they will not be released along the way.

Mr. Papandreou 10) Regarding ASPIDA, you asserted rashly, falsely, and hypocritically: first, that if the Ministry of National Defence had wished, in order to cover up for your son, it could have handed the matter to a person of your absolute trust; and second, that the ASPIDA affair was a matter of complete indifference to you. I,

however, the GREEK PEOPLE, know full well that you sought to take personal charge of the Ministry of National Defence because EDA and your son Andreas urged you to do so — your son having said to you: "Only you personally, my father and Prime Minister, must take over the Ministry of National Defence, for only then shall we succeed in covering up for me by every illegitimate means."

"ONLY YOU, PRIME MINISTER PAPANDEOU," EDA ALSO TOLD YOU, "SO THAT ANDREAS MAY BECOME PRESIDENT OF THE GREEK SOVIET REPUBLIC, MUST TAKE OVER THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE AND NO ONE ELSE. ONLY THEN SHALL WE BE ABLE EASILY TO INSTIL FEAR INTO THE SOULS OF THE MILITARY AND TO CORRUPT THE MORALE OF THE ARMED FORCES — AN INDISPENSABLE PREREQUISITE FOR OVERTHROWING THE REGIME AND ESTABLISHING THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY."
LEONIDAS GERONTOUDIS

In this letter of ours, although it was sent on behalf of the Greek People, the accountable Prime Minister Georgios Papandreou did not reply, having preferred to..."

...the silence of fish. Throughout his entire political career, he systematically avoided answering or acknowledging his mistakes or errors. On the contrary, he was always ready, at any hour, to deliver...a most beautiful piece of hot air.

The publications against him during the past 50 years, both domestically and abroad, are countless — in Greek and foreign newspapers of international standing, as well as in Greek and foreign periodicals. The same unfortunate phenomenon was observed during the past five years against Andreas's son as well, who surpassed his father from an early age in many respects.

Many prominent political figures and many high-standing newspapers, both Greek and foreign, as well as periodicals, have addressed both the deceased father and the living son Papandreou.

Although the reader already knows both the character of these two wreckers of Greece and the situation that took shape during their days, WE — FOR THE SAKE OF HISTORY — PRESENT A MULTITUDE OF PHOTOGRAPHS IN THE HOPE THAT AFTERWARDS, WILLINGLY OR NOT, THE VOCAL PRO-PAPANDREOU VOICES WILL BE SILENCED, AND PERHAPS ALSO THEIR MOUTHPIECES.



Communists Engage in Outrages of Every Kind

From the day after the parliamentary elections of 16 February 1964, only the sensible Greeks — those who had honoured Mr. Konstantinos Karamanlis with their vote — retained their standing in the Greek State. That 43% of the Greek People inwardly grieved over the unprecedented and dismal impasse created in peacetime. It amounted to a galloping decomposition of the Greek State, in which the laws were bypassed with contempt or functioned in a biased manner. Moral values and national spirit were mockingly and most provocatively derided. The Greek People were being drawn into a destructive political and social disintegration, with the jubilant communists as its orchestrators — encouraged by the licence and influence that their treacherous party exercised over the leaders of the Centre Union parties.

These leaders of the Centre Union went so far as to humiliate themselves, like the most contemptible of creatures, before the parliamentary representative of the communist party, Ilias Iliou — and it was they themselves who visited Iliou at his home in order to wish him 'Many happy returns' on the day of his name-day feast.

Greece was being led in iron chains, humiliated, towards ruin. No salvation was anticipated from anywhere, and so everyone waited with fatalistic resignation for the inevitable. 'Whatever the world and Kosmas,' 'Let the earth be mixed with fire,' 'Let my soul perish with those of like mind,' were phrases exchanged among friends, for despair and hopelessness had seized even the law-abiding, sensible, and patriotic Greeks.



The Greek People Under the Two Papandreous

For the historian of the future, we deem it expedient to include in the present work a very small selection of speeches delivered by distinguished Greek and foreign political figures, relating to the lamentable situation that took shape during those years in a Greece rotten with corruption from end to end — A SITUATION THAT ALL THOSE FOREIGNERS WHO PERSIST IN LIGHT-HEARTEDLY CRITICISING TODAY'S GOVERNING SAVIOURS OF GREECE MUST EXAMINE IN DEPTH.

The former Prime Minister of Greece, Mr. Panagiotis Pipinellis, at a dinner organised in his honour by the Reserve Officers and Students on the evening of 15 June 1965, delivered a speech of great significance in which he highlighted the fundamental weaknesses of our political life and referred in general terms to the existing problem afflicting our Country, stressing that 'Greece, in order not to become the Cuba or Indonesia of the Mediterranean, must put an end to the regime of deceit and immorality.'

'Greece,' Mr. Pipinellis emphasised, 'has been preoccupied beyond what is necessary with the

Papandreou family, and it is imperative today, especially for major national organisations such as the NATIONAL RADICAL UNION, to clarify their thinking towards the restoration of economic and political orderliness, and to chart firm and ideological directions for the benefit of youth, which is being demagogued by communism — the danger of which is increased by the demagogic sermons of the Centre Union and which facilitate the infiltration of communism into the ranks of the intelligentsia and youth...'



Young Communists for Pay Beat a Gendarmerie Officer

Today, this small Greece — which waged a six-year, blood-soaked anti-communist war from 1944 to 1949, suffered so many calamities and incalculable destruction, yet has always been a pioneer, standard-bearer, and guide of humanity since most ancient times — is being fanatically sought to be handed in iron chains to Red Totalitarianism by the governments of certain northern states, including that of Great Britain, and to the detriment of NATO!!!

These governments should consult the age-old Greek history in order to be assured that Greece, which has always fought against any enemy and has never yielded before any threat, WILL NEVER RAISE ITS HANDS TO SURRENDER, offering the well-known French 'POURQUOI.' It is determined to fight to its very last breath.

Just as at three o'clock in the morning of 28 October 1940, the thrice-glorious Greece of the ever-memorable Great Ioannis Metaxas proudly uttered the historic "NO" and fought for six full months against 55 million Fascists and 75 million Nazis to the enthusiastic applause of all humanity, IN THE SAME WAY DID IT THUNDER AT THREE IN THE MORNING OF 21 APRIL 1967 THROUGH THE VOICES OF THE FIVE SUPER-GREEKS KONSTANTINOS KOLLIAS, GEORGIOS SPANTIDAKIS, GEORGIOS PAPADOPOULOS, STYLIANOS PATTAKOS AND NIKOLAOS MAKAREZOS, ANOTHER EARTH-SHATTERING NO AGAINST ABOMINABLE COMMUNISM, ALONE, THIS MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GREECE.

In critical moments, the Greeks have always rallied around the best or the greatest, beginning with the Trojan War, when they elected Agamemnon as their national leader — not only as commander-in-chief but also as King of Kings of the not inconsiderable number of Greek city-states.

Later, united once again, the Greeks resisted victoriously against the Persians at Marathon, Plataea, Thermopylae, and Salamis, fighting one against ten and one against four hundred under Leonidas, Themistocles, Miltiades, Pausanias, Cimon, and the just Aristides. Subsequently under Pericles, during whose days Athens attained the pinnacle of its civilisation and glory. Thereafter under Alexander the Great, the incarnation of the Greek spirit and Greek civilisation, which he spread into Africa and Asia as far as India.



At Gorgopotamos, a Colonel of the Greek Army, decorated many times for bravery, is assaulted by organised traitor-communists!!!

In modern history: under Emperor Constantine Palaeologus XI, under Alexander Ypsilantis, Theodoros Kolokotronis, the Great Eleftherios Venizelos, Plastiras, Gonatas and Fokas, the Great Ioannis Metaxas, the Great Alexandros Papagos, and now under the three SAVIOURS GEORGIOS PAPADOPOULOS, STYLIANOS PATTAKOS AND NIKOLAOS MAKAREZOS.

We acknowledge them as SAVIOURS because, inspired and driven by unparalleled self-sacrifice, as well as boldness and prudence, they struck at the most critical moment the most implacable and most abominable enemies of their Fatherland — the communist traitors and the corrupt politicians — and utterly destroyed them.

Let the impartial reader reflect upon into what moral degradation the Greek State had sunk by the evening of 20 April 1967.

The photograph reproduced here suffices to convince anyone that the traitor-communists of Greece had grown so brazen that with inconceivable provocativeness, through marches, demonstrations, strikes, barricades, and acts of sabotage, they were demanding that EDA — the party of internationalist communist murderers — should seize power!!!



This was the picture Greece presented before the Revolution of 21 April 1967. The communist threat had become active and immediate. Organised communist hordes descended into the streets, attacked police officers, set cars on fire, and destroyed shops. Students clashed, resulting in many wounded. Parliament had fallen in the public's esteem. In the chamber of Parliament vulgarities were spoken and outrages committed. Instead of arguments, seats were used as weapons. The terror of anarchy prevailed in urban centres and in the countryside. Greece was on the verge of explosion. It was an active volcano. We were marching towards the inevitable. The Army played the role of the god from the machine. It provided the solution. It brought deliverance. Frenzy gave way to calm. And civil war gave way to creative toil. The corruption of public life was halted. The decadent political world was rendered useless. And the Country looks with confidence towards a better future.

Such was the wretched Greece before 21 April 1967.

The thousands of those frenzied youths — who were paid daily wages by the leaders of communism and by the Centre Union to commit the outrages that the camera only partially captured — were the principal orchestrators of that disorderly situation.



The 'People' of Greece — vagabonds from all strata of society, committing outrages for pay

ON 21 APRIL 1967, HOWEVER, THE FATHERLAND WAS SAVED. GOD THE SAVIOUR OF GREECE BREATHED COURAGE AND SELF-SACRIFICE INTO A SUPREME COURT PROSECUTOR, A LIEUTENANT GENERAL, AND THREE COLONELS, SO THAT THEY MIGHT DRAW THEIR SWORDS AND SEIZE POWER BLOODLESSLY — AS INDEED CAME TO PASS. IT IS THIS GOD WHO SINCE THEN ILLUMINES AND GUIDES THEM SO THAT THEY GOVERN WITH ASTOUNDING WISDOM. THESE FIVE SUPER-GREEKS — KONSTANTINOS KOLLIAS, GEORGIOS SPANTIDAKIS, GEORGIOS PAPADOPOULOS, STYLIANOS PATTAKOS AND NIKOLAOS MAKAREZOS — DREW FROM THE GRAVE THE HALF-DEAD, BLOOD-SPITTING AND RAGGED MOTHER GREECE. TODAY, THANKS TO THESE FIVE GREAT GREEKS AND THEIR WORTHY COLLABORATORS, WE LIVE IN A GREECE WHOLLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT BEFORE 21 APRIL 1967. IN A GREECE ENVIED BY HER ENEMIES AND ADMIRIED BY HER FRIENDS.

The 'Scribes and Pharisees' who these days are tearing themselves apart at the Council of Europe over the... human rights, should stop crying out: 'Crucify her, crucify her (Greece).' They are known as wretched creatures, living as crypto-communists within the Council of Europe.

Among these contemptible creatures we include also members of the British social-communist government and certain British newspapers, with the British radio in the vanguard, which shamelessly, callously and stupidly continues to pollute the atmosphere with hair-raising lies and slanders AGAINST THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND IN FAVOUR OF RED TOTALITARIANISM!!!



Revolution of 21 April 1967

The reason for this unprecedented campaign against small Greece — so unjustly slandered and vilified by the governments of allied states such as England, Sweden, the Netherlands, Norway and Denmark — is, unfortunately, not incomprehensible but easily understood. This is because THEIR STAGS ARE FREELY WORKED OVER BY THE AGENTS OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNISM WHO HAVE INFILTRATED THEM, AMONG WHOM IS ALSO ANDREAS PAPANDREOU.

But in countries such as England, Sweden, Denmark and Norway, whose chief characteristics are drug use, corruption and moral depravity — for which reason the parliaments of some of them joyfully debate and pass laws on free homosexuality — it is natural that they should offer refuge and hospitality to swindlers and embezzlers of public funds and traitors and renegades of international notoriety, such as the diminutive politician Andreas Papandreou, whom Greece expelled because not even the walls of the Greek prisons could tolerate him.

As to the moral depravity of these supposedly democratic states and their unforgivable indifference to the person of tomorrow, indicative is the Reuters news from Denmark that in a Danish city, a municipal council committee granted permission for two homosexuals to be housed in a two-room flat provided by the Social Housing Organisation!!!

From this point, we present comments and assessments from personalities and newspapers of international standing, together with many photographs of the three reformers of Greece — founding charitable institutions, public works, or inaugurating such — in order to demonstrate how untiringly they toil night and day for the rebirth of MODERN GREECE:

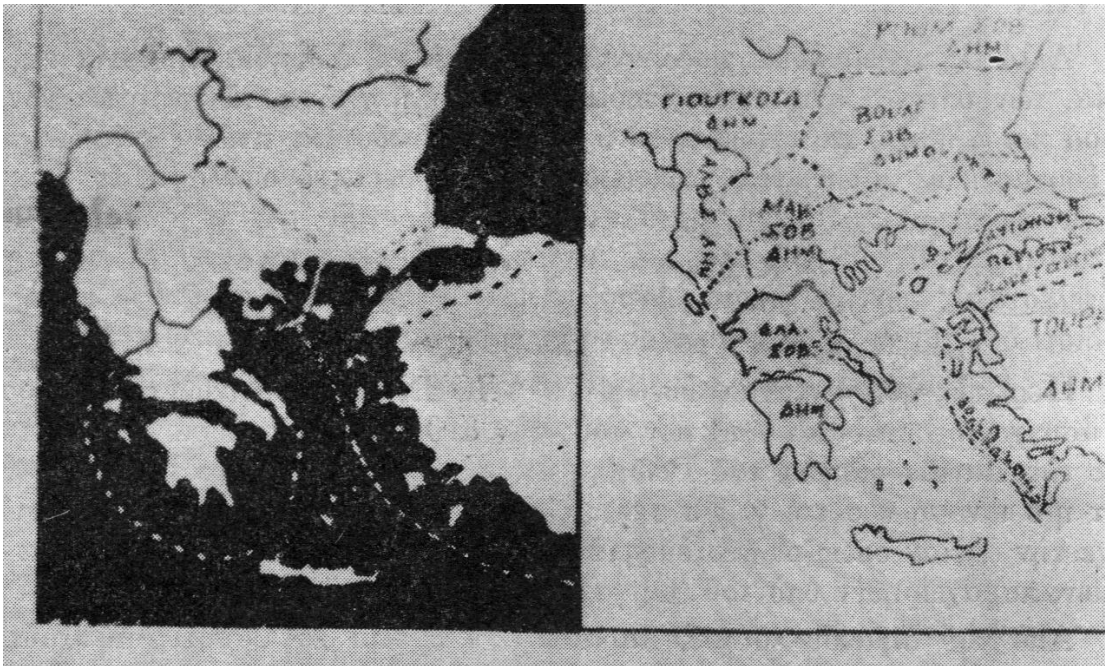
The American Congressman Mr. LAWRENCE WILLIAMS, visiting Greece and meeting with the Greek Prime Minister Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos, emphasised in a speech before Congress: 'Greece is the most important ally of America in NATO and one of the very few countries upon which we could rely in the event of any difficulty. It must be taken into account that Greek ports are the only available ports for the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean, as I know that the Turks will not permit our fleet to use their ports.

'The present government of Greece is accomplishing great work for the relief of the Greeks. The lot of the Greek People is continuously improving; the Greek government has enacted all the necessary reforms and progress is evident in all sectors — administrative, industrial, agricultural, educational, social services, pensions and wages, order and security.

'Before the Revolutionary Government assumed power in Greece, the strength of communism was steadily increasing in Greece. The reforms which the present Government is putting into effect are strengthening Greece to the point where Greeks are becoming capable of self-governance and of resisting external influences, such as communism.

From my observations in Greece, I am convinced that these conditions will be consolidated in the near future and that Greece's form of government will become a model democracy.'

The French review EXIL ET LIBERTÉ published the following about Greece: 'The climate of stability that prevails today in Greece allows the entire Greek People to raise its standard of living within a framework of absolute monetary stability, which favourably influences savings, strengthens private initiative and allows foreign investments to find a field of development in a liberal regime.'



The above map was found near the Greek-Bulgarian border on a Soviet courier along with other valuable material, by the current Lt. Col. SEM Mr. G. Kritotis (who kindly made it available to us). It is indicative of communism's benign intentions towards Greece, and is very much related to the map of the pan-Slavic dreams of the Treaty of San Stefano (1878).

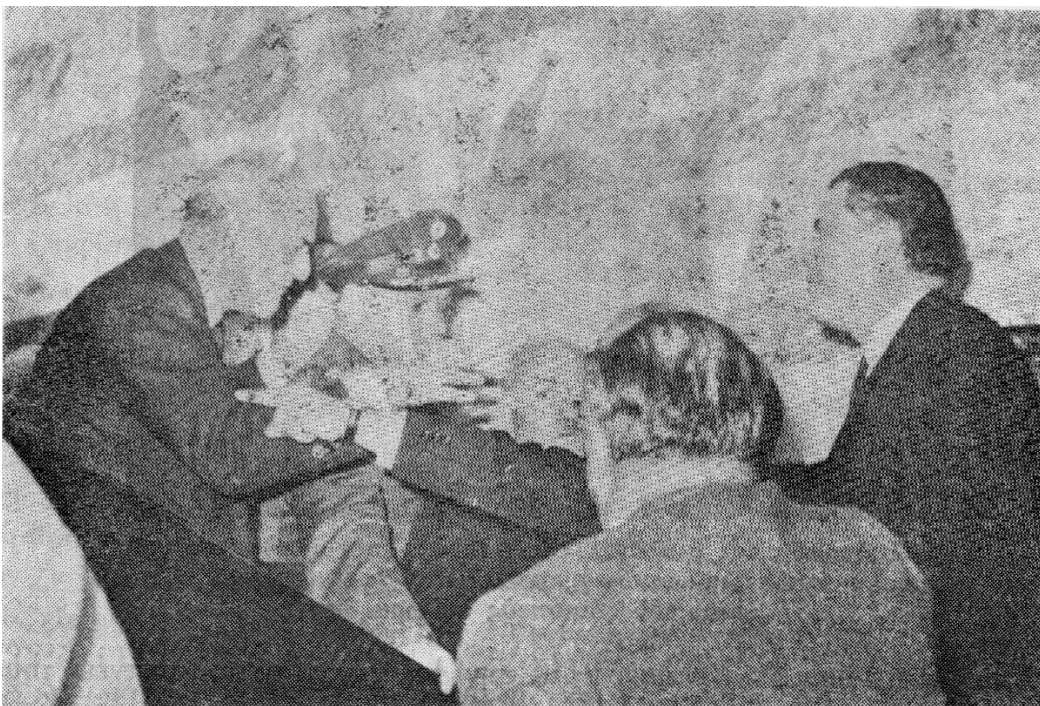
The Dutch newspaper DE TELEGRAAF writes regarding the Greco-phobic MP Van der Stoel: 'Why, it wonders, does this capitalist of the Socialist Party pursue with such frenzy to throw into the streets the small craftsmen, small farmers, etc., presenting an image of Greece that does not correspond to reality?'

The Hague review NIEUWSBRIEF publishes the following: 'The case of the anti-Greek MP Van der Stoel is characteristic of the curious ideological blindness to the political reality of Greece, at least for those who have seen Greece with their own eyes. In our view, parliamentary democracy at present is absolutely unattainable. It would mean at this moment new chaos, a return to street battles, to clashes within Parliament, to that confusion which characterised the pre-1967 period.

'Does Mr. Van der Stoel not understand,' asks the review, 'that by wishing to impose this chaos upon Greece he provokes the righteous indignation of the Greeks at his stance? The Greeks,' it writes, 'who lived through the struggle against the communists and lost their families, saw their underage children abducted to the countries of the Iron Curtain, endured torture and mutilations — it is natural that they should react when Mr. Van der Stoel asserts that the danger from communism does not correspond to reality.'



Behold the Greek Parliament Transformed into a Boxing Ring



Attack by Centre Union and EDA MPs against the President of Parliament

Congressman Mr. SCHMITZ

BEFORE CONGRESS, CONGRESSMAN Mr. SCHMITZ requested that a letter by journalist Mr. STOCKTON be entered into the record, because it describes the Greek reality as it truly is, noting that Mr. STOCKTON has remained in Greece as a correspondent since 1964.

In Mr. STOCKTON's letter, a crushing response is given to the falsehoods of Greece's known opponents, and it is underlined that these form part of a wider cunning campaign generously funded from abroad to defame the Greek Government, which has clearly been demonstrated to be improving the life of the Greek citizen. The chaos that previously existed was real. But it is better for any doubters to come to Greece and carry out whatever investigation they wish. No one will stop them. The government gladly welcomes impartial and honest criticism.'

At the Council of Europe, Lord ST. HELIERS observed pointedly and severely that 'all those who unjustly attack Greece maintained silence during the Soviet invasion of Hungary and Czechoslovakia. This phenomenon has been noted on other occasions as indicative of the ambiguity of intentions of certain so-called democrats whose sensitivity is directed. So, it is not pain for Democracy that inspires



Andreas Papandreou, marked with a cross, accompanied by communist MPs, behaves provocatively like a street ruffian and mocks the judges during the trial.

these gentlemen. There are many cases of complete and final abolition of Democracy that leave them indifferent. But what is most alarming is that their targets coincide with those of international communism, with which they share common sympathies and antipathies. And this is certainly not mere coincidence. It shows that communism has the ability to exercise wider influence than its real power justifies, and to act through personalities and mechanisms that ostensibly serve popular causes.'

Senator Mr. Babalas on Greece

The Senator of the State of Virginia, Mr. Peter Babalas, in an interview with the newspaper Virginia Pilot, sets out his impressions from a recent trip to Greece. 'I found,' he stresses, 'the country free, the people free, happy and satisfied. I had read much about Greece. I was given the opportunity to verify the truth personally. And the truth is that I found nothing in Greece worthy of blame. I moved freely, spoke with many people, and my opinion is that the majority of the people is in favour of the present form of governance, the new constitutional rights, and those who govern.' The American senator then refers to a visit to the island of Lesbos and among other things observes the following: 'I was impressed by what the new government of Greece is doing. It is building schools, constructing roads, providing water and electric lighting to the most remote villages, and particularly manifests its concern for the poor in order to raise their standard of living.'

Statements of an American Congressman before Congress

Recently entered into the official records of Congress was a speech by Congressman Mr. Pusinsky on the prevailing situation in Greece and the work being carried out by the Revolutionary Government.

'The Revolutionary Government,' said Mr. Pusinsky, 'during the course of its governance of the Country, has brought progress and stability to Greece.'

'Prime Minister Mr. Papadopoulos, Vice President Mr. Pattakos, and Coordination Minister Mr. Makarezos, two years ago, led the Army in a bloodless revolution against the forces in Greece that were dragging this friendly country to the brink of the abyss and anarchy.'

'Mr. President, today it is evident that the leaders of the Revolution have kept their word. First, they gave the Greek People the opportunity to vote for a new Constitution.'

'Recently, Prime Minister Mr. Papadopoulos announced three of the twelve most important articles of the New Constitution which he put into effect. These articles restore the rights of the People: the right to peaceful assembly, the right of association, and the inviolability of the domestic sanctuary.'

'In my recent discussions with the leaders of the Greek Government, they expressed their firm desire to put into effect the remaining articles of the Constitution.'

'Mr. Papadopoulos, according to THE NEW YORK TIMES, said in a radio broadcast: THE REVOLUTION REPRESENTS THE GREATEST AND MOST SERIOUS EFFORT OF RESTORATION, REORGANISATION AND PURIFICATION THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE SINCE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE. OUR FRIENDS HAVE BEEN CONVINCED THAT A GREAT WORK OF WIDER SIGNIFICANCE IS BEING ACCOMPLISHED, WHILE OUR ENEMIES MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THEY FIGHT AGAINST US IN VAIN.'

'I personally visited Greece during the past two years and spoke with the people of this country. No one can claim that the principles of Democracy, which was born for the first time in the historic land of Greece, have not been fully applied to this Nation by the Revolutionary Government. I sincerely believe that the Revolutionary Government, led by Mr. Papadopoulos, is making an honest and sincere effort towards the restoration of normal political life in Greece as quickly as possible.

'Prime Minister Mr. Papadopoulos, Vice President Mr. Pattakos, Coordination Minister Mr. Makarezos, as well as their collaborating ministers and all Greek military personnel are purebred Greek patriots.

'Greece today is the most reliable ally of America in Europe. At the same time, today it constitutes our greatest defensive pillar in the Mediterranean. One can safely say that as a member of NATO, America needs Greece far more than America needs NATO.

'Recently Vice President Mr. Pattakos visited Washington, and it was encouraging that he was greeted warmly by the most prominent leaders of our Government.'

From the distinguished newspaper ELEFTHEROS KOSMOS we extract the following:

The Belgian newspaper LIBRE BELGIQUE, in a series of dispatches from its Athens correspondent Mr. Van der Doussen, highlights in particular the statement of Vice President of the Government Mr. Stylianos Pattakos that 'THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT IS THE RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY, FOLLOWING ITS PURIFICATION.'



Attack by MPs against MPs within the Greek Parliament.

The Belgian correspondent in his dispatch extols the personality of the Vice President of the Greek Government and characterises him as a man of strong will, great energy, and undisputable qualities.

Mr. Van der Doussen emphasises in particular the great popularity which the present Government enjoys, and mentions two characteristic facts: the unprecedented reception which the people gave to the Government during the 25th March parade, and his own personal observations from the countryside, where he travelled accompanying the President of the Government.

The Belgian journalist also refers to his conversations with the Mayor of Kalamata, who assured him that a significant improvement in living conditions came immediately after 21 April. Previously, as the Mayor told him, politicians remembered the rural population only before elections.

The dispatch is published in a three-column spread on the front page of the newspaper and is accompanied by photographs — one of the Vice-President of the Government with the caption "PATTAKOS, the man who wishes and is able to captivate the crowds," and another depicting balconies packed with people, with the caption: "For Pattakos the balconies fill with crowds."



Assault by a Thug-Deputy of the Centre Union on a Colleague

The Munich Newspaper

The newspaper BAYERNKURIER, organ of the Christian Democratic Party, praises the work of the National Government of Greece in an article and characterises its economic policy, describing the Minister of Coordination, Mr. Nikolaos Makarezos, as the creator of the new Greek economy.

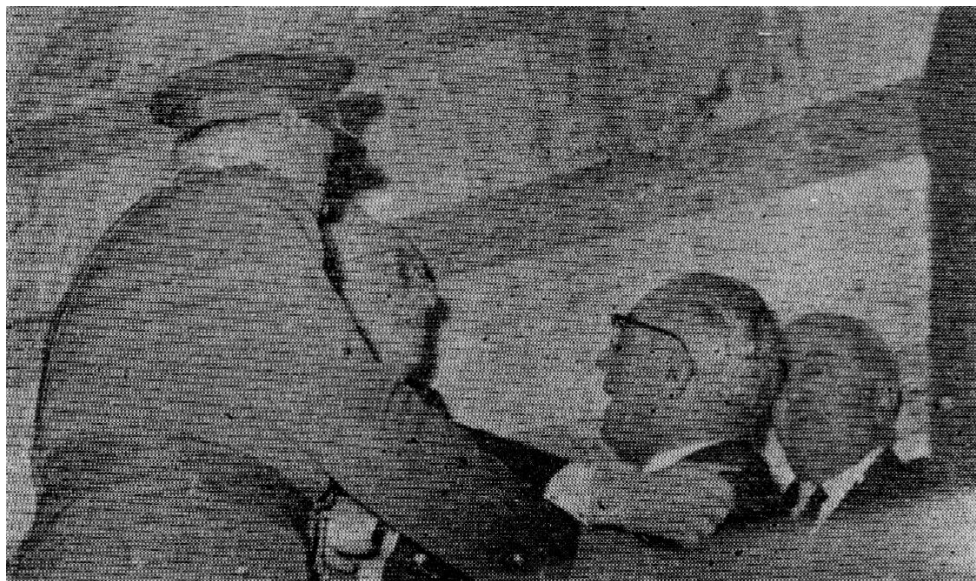
The article's author also commends the stance of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the German Parliament, which voted in favour of continuing military assistance to Greece, declaring that Greece is not only the cradle of the ancient Greek spirit, but also a faithful ally, a cornerstone and fundamental pillar of NATO in the vital region of the Eastern Mediterranean.

In the same issue of the newspaper, an extensive article on Greek tourism is published under the heading: "THE GREEK ISLANDS — PARADISE FOR TOURISTS — A NEW ERA BEGINS IN GREECE FOR TOURISM."

The German newspaper praises the measures taken by the National Government aimed at the full development of tourism, and characterises the corrupt governments of the past as responsible for the delay in tourist activity in Greece.

The Irish Newspaper "IRISH INDEPENDENT"

In his article titled "A WORD FOR THE GREEKS," published in the aforementioned Dublin newspaper,



The daily usual brawls among the elected representatives of the Greek people in the Greek Parliament

Mr. BRIAN R. G. CROTTY writes, among other things, the following:

"I discovered for myself that the left-wing newspapers both in England and in America have carefully and deliberately constructed a false image of Greece, presenting it as a country where an unfortunate mass is brutally oppressed by a fascist regime.

Nothing is more untrue and malicious than the image given by those newspapers.

It is plain to see that the Military intervened on 21 April 1967 at the critical hour precisely to save their Homeland from communist seizure.

Of course, the Greeks do not want to be governed forever by the military. But the present regime is popular because it works actively and is preparing the ground for truly free elections. Unfortunately, as long as a communist threat exists, the Government will be compelled to maintain mild restrictions on newspapers and irresponsible politicians.

In the meantime, however, thousands of ordinary Greeks who depend on tourism for their livelihood are encountering difficulties, primarily because of false publications spread abroad by communists and so-called liberals."

Billy James Hargis, President of the "Christian Crusade," Oklahoma

Mr. BILLY JAMES HARGIS, President of the "Christian Crusade" of Oklahoma, emphasises:

"It was a privilege and an honour for me to visit Athens once again during this week — the cradle of Christian Western civilisation.

It was a particular honour to visit Athens at this time, as I believe the greatest victory against communism during 1967 was scored in this country.

"THERE IS NOT THE SLIGHTEST DOUBT IN MY MIND THAT THE REVOLUTION OF 21 APRIL PREVENTED GREECE FROM BECOMING A COMMUNIST SATELLITE."

Free men everywhere praise God for this truly extraordinary victory against communism during this past year. And since my country, the United States of America, has for years undertaken the Crusade to prevent the seizure of the free world by godless communism and to liberate those unfortunate peoples behind the Iron Curtain who have been enslaved and reduced to misery, I know with certainty that the overwhelming majority of my compatriots are sympathetic to your victory and your objectives.

Some of the extreme left-wing and liberal elements of the Western Press have undertaken to defame the government of Prime Minister Georgios Papadopoulos through the distortion and misrepresentation of events that have occurred in Greece since 21 April. It is already bad enough that the communists of the world attack the Greek Government and its people, but it is inexcusable for certain elements of the Western world's media to collaborate with the Reds in defaming Greece in the eyes of good people everywhere.

It is not within the competence of Western media to condemn our allies in Greece, thereby depriving the Greek Government of the only favour they ask of their allies — the opportunity to rebuild Greece, her patriotism and her economy without external interference."

The French Newspaper "LE MONDE"

Mr. Marceau, in his dispatch published in the French newspaper Le Monde, characterises the new Constitution voted upon by the Greek People as a HERCULEAN WORK, and simultaneously praises the stability of the drachma and the general economic policy of the Government, which succeeded in keeping the national economy under its control.

The Newspaper "JOURNAL D'EGYPTE"

The editor-in-chief of the French-language newspaper JOURNAL D'EGYPTE, in articles spanning one and a half pages, praises in that newspaper the prevailing order and security in Greece, the just social policy and social justice, the economic prosperity, and the generally beneficial measures for the People. He praises the new Constitution, the new Charter of the Church, Greece's stance towards the Middle Eastern question, the industrial projects, and the country's touristic development.

The French Review "AGENCE D'INFORMATION ÉCONOMIQUE ET FINANCIÈRE"

Praises the national revolutionary government policy in favour of investments in Greece by Greeks living abroad and by foreigners. It further reproduces Article 23 of the Constitution on investments and the protection of foreign capital, and the announcement of the Minister of Coordination, Mr. Nikolaos Makarezos, clarifying the facilities currently available for investments in Greece.

The Newspaper "CRITICA SOCIALE" of Milan

Reports that the economic relations of various states (Germany, Italy, France, Belgium) with Greece continue with a prospect of their intensification, and that tourist activity has undeniably increased in Greece, especially from the Italian side.

From the above, the distinguished newspaper ELEFTHEROS KOSMOS does not fail to reprint what was published in an article of the English "INTELLIGENCE DIGEST":

"Greece is an important partner in NATO and the Revolution of 21 April 1967 protected Greece from the creation of a serious political situation which would have been completely contrary to the interests of NATO and of the Western world in general.

Now, only when the whole story has come to the knowledge of our observers and reveals the enormous debt of NATO to present-day Greece, propagandists give a mistaken and malicious image of her.

On 28 May 1967, general elections were to be held in Greece, for which the Centre Party had entered into a secret agreement with the EDA Party (which is the outlawed communist party of Greece).

Under this agreement, the latter would provide its votes in exchange for an agreed number of ministries. Had this succeeded, four avenues for exploiting the situation were opened: 1) The encirclement of Yugoslavia from three sides; 2) the taking of Soviet reprisals against Albania from the land; 3) additional pressure against an isolated Turkey to force her into compromise; 4) the weakening of Israel's position.

It is no exaggeration to say that the Revolution of 21 April 1967 overturned the electoral plans, caused the arrest of a number of fellow-traveller politicians and avowed supporters of the communists, and installed an administration which leaves no doubt that Greece and her armed forces stand firmly at the side of NATO. This means that the realisation of the Soviets' principal objectives, by peaceful means, was neutralised overnight."



Members of Parliament of the treacherous Greek Communist Party (E.D.A.) parade most provocatively through the central streets of Athens in order to obstruct the free flow of traffic and to create a climate of uncertainty and anarchy.

The Rome newspaper **TEMPO** publishes:

"The bloody past of the war against the communists has opened between the Army and Communism in Greece an impassable trench.

AND WHILE FOR OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH CRITICISE GREECE, WITHOUT EVER HAVING BEEN FORCED TO LIVE THROUGH SUCH TRAGIC DAYS, COMMUNISM IS A DRAWING-ROOM TOPIC, HERE THERE STILL EXISTS A MENACING SHADOW WHICH MUST NOT BE INVOKED, LEST THE COUNTRY BE CAST ONCE MORE INTO THE MAELSTROM OF THE INFERNO OF TWENTY YEARS AGO."

The Magazine "EUROPE MAGAZINE" of Brussels

An article is published in it which CRITICISES THE CAMPAIGN WAGED AGAINST THE GREEK GOVERNMENT BY A SECTION OF THE FOREIGN PRESS, WHILE NOBODY PROTESTS ABOUT THE REAL TERROR, THE MURDERS AND THE EXECUTIONS IN THE COUNTRIES WITH LEFT-WING REGIMES.

The Magazine "BAYERISCHER MONATSSPIEGEL"

The contributor to the internationally prestigious and widely-circulating magazine Bayerischer Monatsspiegel, Mrs. Freda Stackelberg, praises the astounding progress achieved by the revolution and the hospitality of the Greeks in her article as follows:

"And if, until now, there exists no proverb for comparing two things," she emphasises, "I myself, first of all, want to create one. And this is: 'Hospitable as a Greek!'"



Many of the parliament members were not satisfied with their fists alone, and so, for greater amusement, they also made use of their armchairs!!!"

"The Greek people," the author further underlines, "the only people in the world who, after 1945, excluded and expelled Bolshevism from their country, relying only on their own forces, is naturally distrustful of socialist experiments."

In conclusion, she says that the Greek government has no need to develop propaganda in order to demonstrate the achievements of the Revolution. Because, as she characteristically writes, "the economic rise, the elimination of corruption, and the restoration of order are so patently obvious that one need not be endowed with particular critical acuity to understand and appreciate them."

Senator Derwinski

Senator Derwinski, speaking in the American Congress, emphasised among other things the following:

"The Greek People maintains with calm steadiness its independence and is served by a government which it itself approved by an overwhelming majority at the referendum of last autumn. The close cooperation between Greece and the United States is a consequence of the historical bonds of friendship which unite the two nations. The increasing pressures which the Soviet Union exerts in the Mediterranean area and the aggressiveness of the communists at various other points must remind us that Greece borders three communist countries.

The Greek People constitutes the bulwark of the free world, playing a leading role in the struggle against the Red tyranny. We salute the anniversary of Greek independence and express on this occasion feelings of friendship, respect, and unflinching interest in the historical bond between the peoples and governments of Greece and the United States."

The above historic address of Senator Derwinski is contained in the records of Congress, published in pamphlet form.

The Supreme Commander of NATO Forces in Europe

At the farewell dinner given in honour of the departing Commander of NATO Forces in Europe, General Lemnitzer, by the Regent Mr. G. Zoitakis, General Lemnitzer stated:

"ON NO OTHER FORCE CAN WE RELY SO MUCH AND SO RELIABLY AS ON THE GREEK ARMED FORCES."

From among the many thousands of international laudatory comments published in newspapers, magazines and other printed materials of foreign states regarding the gigantic work undertaken and being carried out by the National Revolutionary Government of 21 April 1967, we would wish to quote excerpts from the speeches delivered by those who today guide the destiny of the Greek nation — namely Prime Minister Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos, Vice-President Mr. Stylianos Pattakos, Minister of Coordination Mr. Nikolaos Makarezos, and others — because similar speeches have never been delivered in peacetime during the three-thousand-year history of the Greek nation.

Speech by Vice-President Pattakos in Lemnos, 13 November 1967

In every proud Greek, the speeches of the Prime Minister, the Vice-President, the Minister of Coordination, and their worthy collaborators inspire admiration for their strength, their pulse, their patriotic feeling, their argumentation, and the wise exhortations and counsel given to all classes of the Greek People, each of which has been persistently called and continues to be called upon, because those who govern know that this is the main hallmark of a healthy, genuine, GREEK DEMOCRACY. One of these is the speech delivered by the Vice-President and Minister of the Interior, Mr. Stylianos Pattakos, in the capital of Lemnos, Myrina, when he visited the island for the first time

on 13 November 1967, receiving a sincerely triumphant and emotionally moving welcome — first in the glorious Mudros and then in the villages and the capital, where he was received by the Metropolitan of Lemnos Panteleimon, the Military Commander Colonel Mr. Levounis, the Prefect Mr. Sakellarou, the Mayor Mr. Alekos Fergadiotis, all the civil, military and ecclesiastical authorities, and all the inhabitants without exception.



The Mayor of Myrina, Mr. Alekos Fergadiotis, flanked by the kiachagiades, enthusiastically receives the Vice President and Minister of the Interior, Mr. Styl. Pattakos.

In the square in front of the Town Hall, the Vice-President of the Government, who was addressed most aptly by the President of the Teachers' Association Mr. Aristomenis Valakos — noting that in a single night the Revolution of 21 April swept away the Sodom and Gomorrah of the past — spoke to the Lemnian people as follows:



The students of the Lemnos Gymnasium Olympia Pantzara, Chrysanthi Sofia, Pinelopi Sidirelli, Angeliki Christoforou, Sultana Kechagias, Athanasia Patsarisou, Aikaterini Tsouki, Aspasia Sfounou and Dialechti Kalemani, dancing before the dignitaries on the occasion of the arrival in Lemnos of the Vice-President of the National Government Mr. S. Pattakos on 13.11.67.



A snapshot of the triumphant reception that the inhabitants of Lemnos had prepared for the Vice President of the National Government, Mr. Stylianos Pattakos, and his wife.



The Vice President of the National Government, Mr. Stylianos Pattakos, addressing the people of Lemnos in the square in front of the Town Hall



On the 13th of November 1967, while the Vice President of the National Government, Mr. Stylianos Pattakos, delivers his momentous speech in Lemnos."

"Your Eminence, Mr. Prefect, Mr. Sub-Prefect, Mr. Mayor,

I bring you the greetings of the National Government and of the Revolution of 21 April.

Visiting the Prefecture of Lesbos, I wished to fulfil a keen desire of mine to visit Lemnos.

Your manifestations — manifestations of love, solidarity, and support for the National Government, your warm reception today — move me deeply, and I express to you the gratitude of the Government.

Flying over Lemnos, and also during our journey, we had the opportunity to admire the effort and industriousness of its inhabitants.

This toil, this effort, we Greeks must put to good use — and this is one of the fundamental goals of the Revolution of 21 April and of the National Government.

The State must be modernised, rid of the corrupt, the parasites and the middlemen, organised, and must place at the disposal of its citizens the means and knowledge of modern technology and science. It must direct the economy towards reconstruction and readjustment, which will ensure development. It must organise production, but at the same time the distribution of products.

And above all, it must secure the cooperation and labour of its citizens, restore order, and free citizens from the anxiety and anguish of unrest, upheaval, and uncertainty about the future.

Towards the achievement of this goal — the creation of a new Greece — the National Government has been moving from the very first moment of the Revolution.

With the sole compass of the interests of our Homeland and People, far from any other expediency, it does not spare effort, does not bend before reactions, does not fear difficulties.

The Government knows that it can rely on the almost universal solidarity of our people.

The progress of Nations is not the work of the few. It is the result of universal effort, unity, and faith in the goal and in our Greece — of love and understanding.

Our Revolution has proclaimed and proclaims love and the union of all Greeks who believe in and serve Greece.

We are not interested in anyone's political views; we have never thought of distinguishing Greeks; we shall eliminate only the treacherous Communism, because it has been proved that communists do not think of and do not serve Greece.

All the others — united, beloved, inspired by our History, our Helleno-Christian traditions — shall devote ourselves to the creation of a healthy State, a happy Greece, where the people, the martyred Greek people, shall live free, calm, secure and shall enjoy the goods which science and the evolution of modern life offer to man.

In this beautiful, noble struggle, which will also mark the vindication of the nation's wartime efforts, the National Government and the Revolution of 21 April calls all Greeks, of every class, regardless of wealth, education or origin.

United and in love, under the guidance of our King, we shall conquer again, and we shall create a new life, better and finer, both for ourselves and for our children, and we shall secure the Greek course, and shall preserve the immortal Greek spirit as a guide and light-giver of men and peoples.

Long live the Nation; Long live the King; Long live the noble People of Lemnos."

The public assemblies of the Municipality in antiquity were the pre-eminent democratic manifestation of the Democracy born in Greece. Through such an assembly of all classes of Greece, we are of the opinion that the Greek People — who have not been and are not deprived of any freedom — THEY ALONE must decide whether elections should be held and when, or whether it is imperative that the ruling SAVIOURS govern for four, eight, or even twenty more years.

It is, we believe, their inalienable right, after so many tribulations under corrupt communist rule, to be asked — they, the Greek People — when they want municipal elections to be held and when parliamentary ones. The Greek People, mindful that prior to the 21st of April 1967 International Communism controlled and directed organisations, municipalities, communities, brotherhoods, associations, unions and clubs, and that its corrosive activity had begun to dangerously infect the Army, the Navy, the Air Force and the Security Forces as well, does not wish that the Greece of the self-sacrifice, labours and sweat of GEORGIOS PAPADOPOULOS, STYLIANOS PATTAKOS, NIKOLAOS MAKAREZOS and their other associates be surrendered to unscrupulous and sacrilegious communist mechanisms. LET THE LURKING ENEMIES CROW AND CROAK EVEN MORE DESPERATELY. Here, for the benefit of the willfully hard-of-hearing foreigners who are hostile towards Greece, we publish the Message of the Patriarch of Alexandria and

Pope of All Africa NIKOLAOS VI and the greetings of the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople ATHENAGORAS, both of whom bless with religious fervour the National Revolution, confident that we are offering not only to Greek History, but also to world history, IRREFUTABLE HISTORICAL EVIDENCE, WHICH WILL BE OF PARTICULAR SERVICE TO THOSE WHO IN THE FUTURE WILL OCCUPY THEMSELVES WITH THE SALVIFIC AND MORE CREATIVE THAN EVER REGIME OF THE 21st OF APRIL 1967.

On the 15th of April 1969, the Ecumenical Patriarch ATHENAGORAS, while returning from Bulgaria to Constantinople, made a stop in Orestiada, where he conveyed his wishes to the Greek People and the National Government — and in particular to Prime Minister Mr. G. Papadopoulos — through the Deputy Prime Minister of the National Government, Mr. Styl. Pattakos, emphasizing that

HE REJOICES THAT THE GREEK PEOPLE ENJOY FULL FREEDOM AND UNITY. "I FOLLOW THE WORK OF THE GOVERNMENT," HE SAID, "AND I AM STRUCK BY THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ITS EFFORTS," after which he blessed the assembled crowd — while many wept, moved with emotion — and, turning to Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Stylianos Pattakos, expressed his joy that "THE GREEK PEOPLE ARE FARING WELL UNDER CONDITIONS OF COMPLETE SECURITY AND UNITY, UNDER A GOVERNMENT THAT IS EXERTING STRENUOUS EFFORT FOR THEIR PROSPERITY."

The Patriarch of Alexandria, Pope of All Africa, Nicholas VI

On 11 April 1969, the Patriarch of Alexandria and Pope of All Africa NICHOLAS VI, who had visited Athens, stated in his message to the Greek people, among other things: "FROM MY STAY IN GREECE I HAVE ASCERTAINED THAT IN OUR HOMELAND A GREAT NATIONAL WORK IS BEING ACCOMPLISHED WHICH BENEFITS NOT ONLY THE GLORIOUS GREEK PEOPLE, BUT HAS REPERCUSSIONS AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL. GREECE IS BEING LED BY THE REVOLUTION TOWARDS A BRILLIANT FUTURE. GREECE AT THIS MOMENT IS IN THE HANDS OF A STALWART MAN OF TIRELESS INDUSTRY AND ABSOLUTE DEDICATION TO NATIONAL DUTY. I WISH THE GREEK PEOPLE TO MARCH UNDER THE NATIONAL FLAG OF THE REVOLUTION OF 21 APRIL ON THE ROAD WHICH GOD'S LOVE HAS ORDAINED FOR IT."

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO THE GREEK PEOPLE UPON THE DECLARATION OF THE REVOLUTION

"Greek People,

We have long been witnesses to a crime committed against society and our Nation.

The unscrupulous and vile party corruption, the derailment of a large section of the Press, the methodical attack against all institutions and their subversion, the humiliation of Parliament, the slander of all and sundry, the paralysis of the state machinery, the complete lack of understanding towards the burning problems of our youth, the mistreatment of our students, the moral decline, the confusion and murkiness, the secret and open collaboration with the depraved — and finally the continuous inflammatory preachings of unscrupulous demagogues — have destroyed the country's calm, created a climate of anarchy and chaos, cultivated conditions of hatred and division, and led us to the brink of national catastrophe. No other means of salvation remained but the intervention of our Army.

This intervention is, of course, a deviation from the Constitution, but this deviation was imperative for the salvation of the Homeland!

The salvation of the Homeland is the supreme Law.

The elections which had been announced could not provide the solution to the impasse that had been created. First, because under the present conditions their orderly conduct was impossible and, second, because whatever the outcome, we would inevitably have been led to bloodshed and chaos. For this reason the Army intervened. To stop the march towards catastrophe one step before the abyss.

Absolute calm and order prevail throughout the country.

The President and members of the Government have been mobilised to perform their duty towards the Homeland.

Who are we? We do not belong to any political party and are not disposed to favour one political grouping at the expense of another. We do not belong to the economic oligarchy either, which we are equally unwilling to allow to provoke poverty. We belong to the working class. And we shall stand at the side of our poor fellow Greeks. We are driven exclusively by patriotic motives and seek to abolish corruption. To purify public life. To remove from the country's organism the rot from which it was in danger. To avert the division and mutual slaughter to which evil Greeks were driving us, and to create healthy foundations for the swift return of the country to truly orthodox parliamentary life. We proclaim brotherhood. From this moment there are no Right, Centre, or Left. There are only Greeks who believe in Greece, in a noble, superior and complete ideal of true Democracy — not the Democracy of the pavement, of mob rule and anarchy. When Greeks are united, they work miracles. There are, of course, also a few demagogues, nightmares, agitators, unscrupulous opportunists and professional anarchists. These sought to divide us. And they call us left-wing, centrist, centre-left and right-wing. They sought to instill in our souls, by every means, hatred of one towards the other. They sought to inflame and push us into mutual destruction. These few incendiaries we shall isolate, and all of us other Greeks, united, shall march forward on the road of duty towards the Homeland. Towards progress and happiness. Our fundamental aim is social justice. The fair distribution of income. The moral and material elevation of society as a whole and especially of farmers, workers and the poorer classes.

The Government's attention will turn fully towards youth and its problems.

After the consolidation of an orderly rhythm and the creation of the appropriate conditions for this, as quickly as possible, the country will return to parliamentary life on a healthy basis. Then, the mission of the Government will have ended.

To prevent division and the imminent civil strife which was leading to bloodshed and social and national catastrophe, the Government has proclaimed Martial Law throughout the country.

The Government declares categorically that it is determined to bring to completion by all available means and at a rapid pace the heavy mission it has undertaken. It is determined to fulfil its obligations to the Greek People in full. It invokes the universal support of the population for the realisation of its purpose. It demands full obedience to the State. As is the case in all civilised countries. Because real freedom exists where there is Law. Where the freedom of one extends to the point where the freedom of another begins.

The Government is obliged to warn in the most categorical manner that any opposition to its national work of change, from whatever source, will be crushed immediately by all means at its disposal.

Long live the NATION. Long live the KING. Long live ETERNAL GREECE.

Athens, 21 April 1967"

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT

World History records many revolutions directed against regimes and conquerors since the most ancient times, as well as uprisings, revolts and rebellions aiming at socio-political reforms and the granting of privileges.

Setting aside the movements, uprisings, revolts and rebellions of the various peoples of the earth in Mythological and Classical times and in the millennium of the Byzantine Empire, we shall simply recall — so as not to extend ourselves in detail — some of the most significant revolutions that have taken place in free European States in recent years. We shall therefore not refer to the Greek Revolution of 1821, in which a handful of enslaved heroes fought desperately against the great Ottoman Empire, which then threatened all of Europe.

The French Revolution, known to all, in which the poorer classes of the French People fought, broke out 180 years ago, specifically in the year 1791. This revolution, not being quickly organised towards the emergence of a well-functioning state, evolved over an entire decade into permanent terror under the leadership of a twelve-member committee — in reality, however, under the known Triumvirate of Robespierre, Couthon and Saint-Just. The fierce persecutions and most bloody internal wars that took place throughout France did not end until 1799 — and a democratic political system was acquired by the French State only in 1875 through the Constitution of 25 February, that is, 76 years after the Revolution was proclaimed.

In Italy, the Revolution, through the March on Rome on 30 October 1922 (Marcia su Roma) by the

Fascists, compelled the King to entrust the governance of the Italian State to their leader, Benito Mussolini. Indeed, on the following day, 31 October, Mussolini — now the Duce of Italy — having formed a government, applied barbarous and inhuman methods. The internal governance of Italy and the external Fascist policy of the Duce are known as criminal, and especially so to the Greeks. Which of the Greeks did not rise up and feel revulsion when on 31 August 1923 a fascist fleet of 21 warships seized the beautiful Corfu and heavily bombarded her capital? Which of the Greeks was not outraged and did not rise up when on 15 August 1940 the light cruiser "ELLI" was torpedoed and sunk while anchored off the port of Tinos to take part in the celebration of the Annunciation? Who did not rise up and did not attack the fascist hordes on 28 October 1940, because they attacked at 3 in the morning without a prior declaration of war?

But let us leave aside the always-ridiculed braggard Duce — who among other things had the audacity to write the following in the Italian encyclopaedia: "Only war develops to the highest degree all the energies of men and places the seal of nobility upon peoples who have the required virtues to undertake it" — because he lacked, the poor man, self-knowledge.

In Spain, a country of civil conflicts for 1,300 years, a Revolution broke out on 18 July 1936 under the command of Generals Franco and Sanjurjo, the latter dying unexpectedly a few days later. As a result, Franco began a protracted civil war lasting three years, despite the support of Hitler's Germany and Fascist Italy with many tens of thousands of troops and hundreds of bombers. The Government Forces under Casado, having bravely confronted the rebel armies under Franco and the military and aerial forces of his allies Germany and Italy for three years, were forced to capitulate, whereupon Franco entered Madrid in triumph, proclaimed Caudillo — the equivalent of "Führer" and "Duce." The enormous destruction and other damages in men and materiel were incalculable, as dozens of unfortified Spanish towns and villages were literally levelled by German bombers, among them the historic city of Guernica, where thousands from the civilian population were killed — mainly children. Since then, for 34 years, Spain has been governed dictatorially, and it is unknown when it will acquire a democratic constitution.

Finally, the revolution of the Nazis under the leadership of the Nero of the 20th century, Adolf Hitler, in Germany — one of the most advanced countries of Europe — is the revolution that history will record forever with revulsion, because its main characteristics were violence and crime. Despite this, many maintain that the German Nazi revolution is the revolution that could have survived and directed the fate of all of Europe, if not all of humanity, for centuries — had its politically and diplomatically extremely myopic leader Hitler, after so many violent annexations of territories of free states, not attacked Poland, whose integrity had been guaranteed by France and Great Britain.

Instead, as we saw, he reduced to ashes the then magnificently radiant Germany of Hindenburg, and the destinies of civilised Europe — because, visionary and fantast, he also attacked Russia, with which he had concluded a non-aggression pact. Most savage were the annihilations of millions of human beings, thrown and burnt in ovens in groups, or executed in prisons and concentration camps. Finally, when those around him roused themselves to the opinion that such great savagery ought to be somewhat limited, he did not hesitate to order the merciless execution of all without exception, including the former Prime Minister of Germany Kurt von Schleicher, together with his wife.

Last among the revolutions sketched in states of civilised Europe comes the Greek **Revolution of 21 April 1967** — an event enthusiastically applauded by all of Hellenism, because appalling tormentors, adherents of corruption, had for more than three years been dragging Greece in chains, pushing, goading, mocking and provoking without mercy until they brought her to the grave, into which they had thrown her bleeding and in rags.

In the memory of every fair-minded Greek there unroll, like a film, the problematic dealings in commerce, the wretchedness of the irregularities in education, the provocative contempt towards judges and the men of the Armed Forces and the Security Forces, the brawls of MPs inside the Greek Parliament, the threats and insults hurled at His Majesty the King who symbolises the Greek Nation, the disgraceful Lambrakides, the mob organisations of vagrants and ruffians, the arson attacks on the shops of our hardworking brothers, the almost daily marches and demonstrations, the strikes that paralysed the state machinery to the point that young people and breadwinners, exhausted from their work, could not get to their jobs and their homes.

The disgrace of the Marathon March, which its organising leaders of the KKE observed by helicopter, checking whether everything was proceeding according to plan; the even greater and unforgettable disgrace at the bridge of Gorgopotamos, where senior officers of the Greek Army were maltreated and seriously wounded; the appointment of tens of thousands of idlers to various posts; the squandering of public money by the two catastrophic ruiners of Greece — father and son Papandreou — amounting to approximately four billion drachmas; the parliamentary representative of EDA Elias Iliou, who whenever he heard a nationally-minded deputy speaking in Parliament would leap up as if propelled by a powerful spring and call the speaker groundlessly a "fascist"; the notorious "Plan ΘA" of the truly portentous windbag Georgios Papandreou, which history will recall with bitterness, as through it the leader of the "Indefatigable" managed to win the vote of the Greek people in order to lead Greece to the brink of ultimate oblivion; the plan "Pericles" which the two Papandreous deliberately betrayed to the known unscrupulous traitors of the Homeland, against whom it would have been directed had they attempted to seize power by force; the resignation of former American citizen Andreas Papandreou, compelled to do so by the overwhelming revelations of the frank and authoritative newspaper Imera, which published that as a result of the scandal of Andreas Papandreou in favour of his friends Skiadaresis, Manterstam and Tritsis, a sum of 25,285,000

drachmas arose at the expense of the State; the known plan HELIKON bearing the signature of Georgios Papandreou and revealed by the Minister of National Defence Mr. Garoufalias, in which was contained a nominal list of officers characterised either as "ours" — with a proposal for their promotion to various leadership positions — or as dissenters from whom removal was sought; in Crete, the attack of left-wing demonstrators of Chania against the Public Prosecutor, whom the police left unprotected so that he was savagely punched; the illegal organisation "ASPIDA," inspired and directed by the two satanic minds, father and son Papandreou, which was preparing the politicisation of the National Army and through it the establishment of a dictatorial regime; the corruption and sensationalism of the Press to the extent that Ministers were even appointed by press conglomerates; the hunger strikes; the enormous-scale incidents at the Panathinaikos stadium and its arson on 17 June 1964; the megaphones from which subversive slogans issued; the barricades in the streets of Athens; and finally the wave of anarchy throughout the country — all this is a small image of pre-revolutionary Greece. It was the work of the utterly debased leaders of the parties of so-called democracy and of the abominable enemy of humanity and Orthodoxy, Communism.

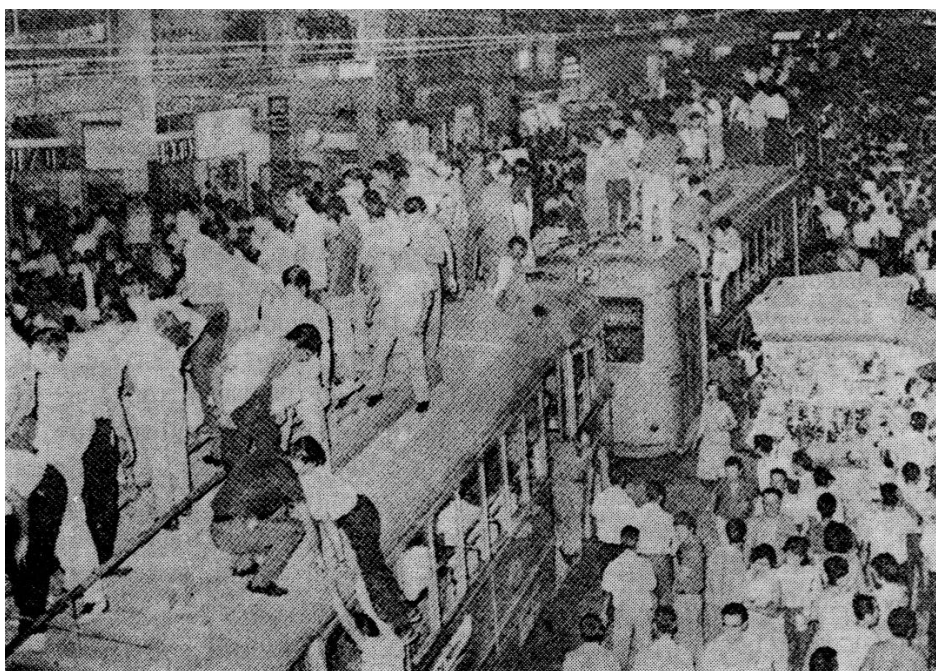
No one can forget what was attempted against the Greek Orthodox Church by that very Ministry of Education during the days when the country was governed by two fellow-travellers, father and son Papandreou. As Orthodox Christians, we are obliged to remember that at the imposing assembly of Theologians at the «Akropol» theatre, five thousand Theologians demonstrated their indignation over the well-known new education bill drawn up by the Government of the Centre Union, with Prime Minister Georgios Papandreou, by which the religious education of Greek children was grievously harmed. At this assembly, the President of the Pan-Hellenic Union of Theologians, Mr. S. Papakonstantinou, pointed out the danger which the Christian Religion faced on account of that new educational reform, as it did not follow the line of Orthodoxy in the religious education of pupils, and he stressed that the assembly ought to become the beginning of a peaceful religious revolution against all those who conspired against the sacred and holy tenets of our Faith.

Subsequently, the Member of Parliament for the C.U., Mr. Tomaras, spoke; having fully endorsed the words of the President of the Pan-Hellenic Union of Theologians, Mr. S. Papakonstantinou, he promised to personally convey the resolution of the assembly to the President of the Government and to request of him the removal of Papanoutsos from the Ministry of Education and the deletion of the destructive articles of the Law on educational reforms that were harmful to the Nation, declaring before all present that should these demands not be accepted, he would withdraw from the C.U. party.

What else should we remember and not forget of all that was perpetrated until the 21st of April 1967, against the social body, by the unscrupulous and wretched party wheeling and dealing? That the Press had been placed at the disposal of corrupt governance? Or that on the 4th of June 1966, a frenzied mob of supporters of the... «progressive» EDA attacked the Greek Parliament in order to assault the nationally-minded deputies within it, and subsequently to set it on fire and proceed — who knows — to what other anarchic acts?

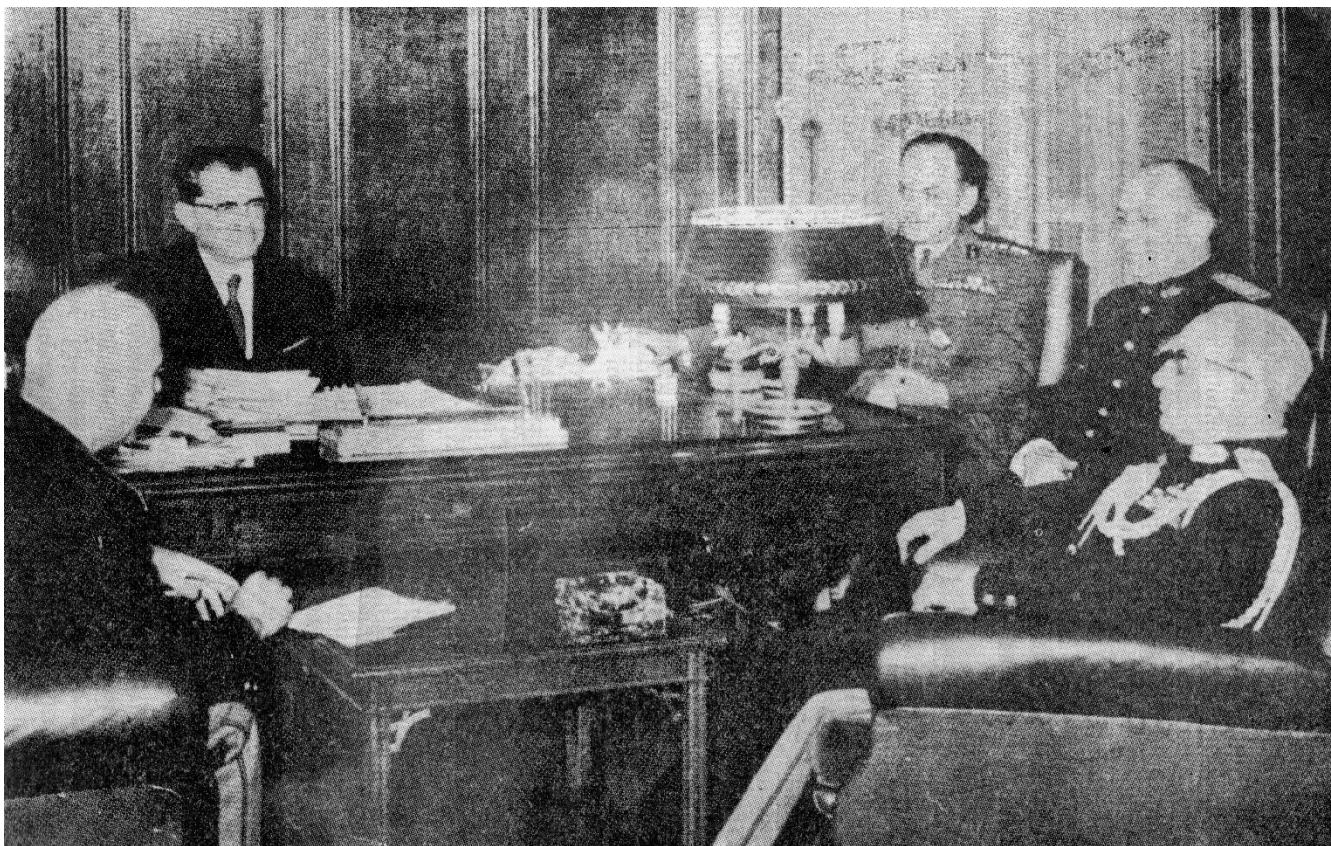
BUT THE GOD OF GREECE SAVED GREECE

The President of the National Revolutionary Government of the 21st of April 1967 and Prosecutor of the Court of Cassation, Mr. Konstantinos Kollias, its Vice-President, the Minister of National Defence, Chief of the General Staff of the Army, Lieutenant General Mr. Grigorios Spantidakis, the Minister of the Interior and Public Order, Brigadier General Mr. Stylianos Pattakos, the Minister of Coordination, Colonel of Artillery Mr. Nikolaos Makarezos, and the Minister to the Presidency of the Government, Colonel of Artillery Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos — the guiding mind of the National Revolution of the 21st of April — who formed the first Cabinet Council, driven by purely patriotic motives, struck down with unparalleled self-sacrifice and extraordinary prudence the mob-rule of anarchy, the corrupt governance, the democracy of the pavement, the oppressors, the demagogues, the Lambrakists and other vagabonds — not within years and decades, as we have seen in other revolutions of European states — but within a very few hours. And the outcome? ENTIRELY WITHOUT BLOODSHED.



The spirit of anarchy had taken hold even of the student youth, resulting in the loss of control over every action.

Entirely without bloodshed, because the revolutionary super-Greeks acted undaunted, moved by pure and genuine Greek sentiments and guided by Saints and Angels. This is why the Revolution of the 21st of April 1967 has nothing in common with other Revolutions. The Revolution of the 21st of April is not the revolution of a group of men or only the revolution of the Armed Forces. It is a NATIONAL UPRISING and for this reason its gallant Leaders, through the National Army, thwarted the... triumphant entry into Thessaloniki of Georgios Papandreou, which had been planned in detail for the 23rd of April 1967 and organised by the well-known international traitors, Communists and wanton enemies of the Greek Nation and of Orthodoxy.



The first session of the first Cabinet Council of the National Revolutionary Government on the 21st of April 1967. — 1) The President of the Government, Prosecutor of the Areopagus (Supreme Court), Mr. Konstantinos Kollias. — 2) The Vice-President of the Government and Minister of National Defence, Chief of the General Staff of the Army, Lieutenant General Mr. Grigorios Spantidakis. — 3) The Minister of the Interior and Public Order, Mr. Stylianos Pattakos, the Minister of Coordination, Colonel of Artillery Mr. Nikolaos Makarezos, and the Minister to the Presidency of the Government, Colonel of Artillery Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos.

At the entrance to the city of Thessaloniki, the trusted agent of the treacherous EDA would have cried out «hosanna to him who enters», and the rabble of the Lambrakists and other rootless Greeks, in response, would have shouted: «in the name of the People's Democracy», so that from that moment Greece would be transformed into a mutually-tearing Vietnam — a Southern Greek one and a Northern one of the traitor Greek Viet Cong — with the ridiculous «Papatzis» as their leader. But the GUARDIANS had long been aware of this common plan of the two friends, and in order to avert the most appalling of the appalling, they drew their swords at the last moment and, knowing that the entire Greek people would rejoice at their bold act, they attacked the dreadful enemies of the fatherland and in the twinkling of an eye annihilated them.

Thus, the Army Revolution of the 21st of April prevailed, four years ago. This is the naked truth, which is today acknowledged even by those foreigners who during the first months were unable to explain how the Revolution prevailed without bloodshed throughout such a restless Greece.

The Greek People demonstrated their support for the salvific on the one hand, and regenerative on the other, work of the Revolution indisputably on the day when they came and voted unanimously in favour of the New Constitution, namely on the 29th of September 1968, thereby expressing their confidence in their saviours — not only in this way but also through the oversubscription of the State lottery bond loans.

One of the most important achievements of the National Revolution during the four years that have elapsed, after the annihilation of the various internal enemies of the Greek state, is the social tranquillity, which safeguards the collective toil of all Greeks, who today acknowledge that the safeguarding of their toil had as its consequence one of the healthiest currencies in the world, and that thanks to this advantage, an abundance of so many products and goods are offered in the markets of all Greek cities and even villages, such as are offered in only very few countries. Furthermore, the Greek products destined for export are much sought-after in the markets of Europe and even the most remote ones, because they are offered at stable and unbeatable prices and packaged in a manner that honours the Greek name. This is closely monitored by the National Revolutionary Government with a view to eliminating the bad reputation which, unfortunately, some of the great Greek commercial houses had acquired during the era of corrupt governance.

Another great achievement of the National Government is the remarkably increased tourist activity during these four years, to such a degree that new and noteworthy hotel units are being established both by the National Tourism Organisation and by private entrepreneurs in all cities of Greece without exception.

Another great good which all Greeks enjoy is the regular communications both of the interior and exterior, while our airports and our bus and rail routes are in no way inferior to those of other advanced states, as is our shipping, which through newly-built vessels presents an unprecedented rise, due to the continually increasing tourist traffic throughout the whole year.

A significant achievement likewise is the formation and functioning of the Small Parliament, that is, the small Parliamentary body, in which the draft laws will be publicly debated by representatives of all professional organisations and all regions of the country before being voted upon by the Cabinet Council —

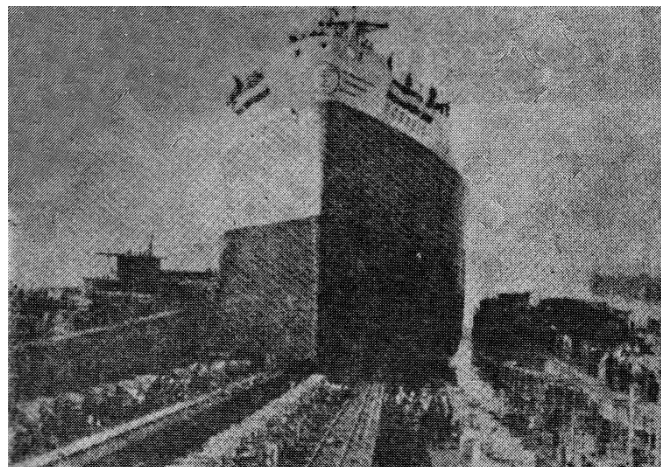
...so that the opinions and observations of all classes of the people may be freely expressed upon them. This is a most democratic measure, of advanced and civilised peoples, and moreover a measure that prevents the interference of members of parliament, who under the reign of corruption employed every means to satisfy unlawful interests.

In Greece today, all Greeks work feverishly and conscientiously, like worker bees. There are no drones or idle wage-earners. Even in the smallest island, one observes that many noteworthy works have been accomplished.

Never in its three-thousand-year life has the Greek State known such a tendency towards action and sustained effort, which varies according to the needs of each province for its development through productive works — such as tourist beautification projects and notably land improvement works — aimed at the development of land and water resources.

During the four-year period 1967–1971, the Clergy, the Army, the Air Force and the Fleet, Agriculture, Industry, domestic and foreign Commerce, the Merchant Marine, Education, the Sciences, Navigation, all professional classes, mineral wealth, public health, the arts, mines and quarries, telecommunications and investments in various enterprises of foreign capital were brought to an unprecedented peak of prosperity, owing to the prudent policy and devoted concern of those who guided the fortunes of Greece, which had been sorely tested for four years before the Revolution.

For family allowances alone, more than one billion drachmas were spent up to the end of last year. During the four years of governance of the country by the National Government, Greece acquired shipyards equal to the best modern ones, as well as cruise ships.



At the Skaramangas shipyards, under the National Revolutionary Government of 21st April, ships of all tonnages are launched.

By decision of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior Mr. St. Pattakos, interest-free loans are granted to Communities for public works. At this moment, 110 Secondary Schools are being constructed in various cities and towns, at the expense of the Public Investments programme, many of which, upon completion, already began operation last year.

In March of last year 1969, the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. St. Pattakos inaugurated the new Athens Meat Market. In Larissa last year, six (6) four-storey apartment buildings were inaugurated for the housing of 103 families from shanty settlements. The largest and most modern Border Guard station was inaugurated last year at the Greek-Yugoslav border by the Secretary-General of the Greek Tourism Organisation Mr. Mich. Balopoulos. Also last year, the new factory of SIEMENS in Thessaloniki was inaugurated, in the presence of Deputy Prime Minister Mr. St. Pattakos, the Minister of Coordination Mr. N. Makarezos, the Minister of Commerce Mr. Tsellos, of Industry Mr. Kypreos, the Under-Secretary of Finance Mr. Evlambios, the German Ambassador in Athens, the Military Authorities of Thessaloniki, the Chairman of OTE Mr. Alexandropoulos, etc.



The Minister of Merchant Marine, Professor Mr. Ioannis Holevas, laying the foundation stone for the construction of the Public School of Preparatory Training of the Merchant Navy in Preveza.

In 1968, Prime Minister Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos inaugurated the New Airport Terminal at Hellenikon, while Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Styl. Pattakos inaugurated the Water Supply works of Salamis and the communities of Ambelaki, Moulki and Selinia.

In 1969, the Minister of Social Services Mr. Patras handed over ninety newly-built dwellings to refugee families of the Drapetsona settlement in Piraeus. Last year, the Minister of Merchant Marine Mr. Ioan. Holevas inaugurated in Piraeus the Building of the Naval Veterans' Fund. In 1969 in Veria, the lottery draw was held for 91 workers' dwellings. That same year in Larissa, in the presence of the Minister of Labour Mr. Vogiatzis, the lottery draw was held for 100 new workers' dwellings.

In 1968, the Tatarna Bridge was inaugurated, 435 metres in length, which from a technical standpoint holds first place worldwide, for which reason the English encyclopaedia "Britannica" included the Tatarna Bridge as an exceptional international technical achievement. On 8 May 1969, Prime Minister Mr. G. Papadopoulos inaugurated the Hydroelectric project of Kastraki. Towards the end of 1969, the harbour works of Myrina, the capital of the island of Lemnos, were completed, and since then all steamships approaching Lemnos dock at the new pier, thus freeing passengers from the great ordeal — especially in winter — of boarding steamships by rowing boats, as the ships usually arrive at night.



Prime Minister Mr. G. Papadopoulos, flanked by the Archbishop of Athens and All Greece Mr. Ieronymos and the Minister of Communications Mr. Emm. Fthenakis, as he cuts the blue-and-white ribbon, inaugurating the new airport terminal building.



The Deputy Prime Minister Mr. St. Pattakos inaugurating the official commencement of operations of the new factory of "Siemens Telecommunications" S.A. in Thessaloniki.

In the year 1968, 340,000,000 drachmas were allocated by the Ministry of Coordination for the development of the country's forest wealth.

In 1968, the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. St. Pattakos inaugurated the culverting works of the Asvesthohori stream and the new wing of dormitories of the National Foundation for the Protection of Destitute Children "Aristotle" of Kalamaria.



Prime Minister Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos laying the foundation stone for the Courthouse of Thessaloniki.

In 1968, the Under-Secretary of Social Services Mr. Dimitras inaugurated in Neo Psychiko the Onassis Foundation. This constitutes a modern children's day-care centre and is a gift from the shipowner Mr. Onassis for the benefit of the children of working mothers of the area. It is to operate with staff paid by the donor Mr. Onassis.

In March 1968, in the presence of the Deputy Prime Minister of the National Government Mr. St. Pattakos and the Minister of Labour Mr. Vogiatzis, 35 workers' dwellings were drawn by lottery in Agrinio.

In Kallithea last year, the new PHILIPS factory was inaugurated.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior Mr. St. Pattakos laid the foundation stone in Elefsina for the building complex in which the Secondary School will be housed, at a cost of 17,000,000 drachmas.

The Deputy Prime Minister, during a ceremony, handed over in the Theriso area of Heraklion 552 apartments to an equal number of families who had been living in insanitary hovels for more than half a century.



The Deputy Prime Minister of the Government and Minister of the Interior Mr. Pattakos laid the foundation stone in Preveza for the General State Hospital of the City.

At the ceremony there were also present the Ministers of Public Works Mr. Papadimitriou, the Deputy Minister of Coordination Mr. Fthenakis and the Under-Secretaries of Education and Social Services Messrs. Sioris and Dimitras, the General Inspector of Administration Mr. Koukouridis and other official figures. The people of Heraklion, in an apotheosis of feelings of faith and devotion to the National Government, welcomed the Deputy Prime Minister and the Ministers.

At the beginning, with Archbishop of Crete Mr. Eugenios presiding, a blessing ceremony was performed, after which the Nomarch and representatives of the families to whom the new dwellings were distributed addressed the Deputy Prime Minister, expressing their gratitude for the caring government interest thanks to which they were acquiring their own homes.



In 1969, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior Mr. Stylianos Pattakos solved the water supply problem of Megara. The citizens of Megara, as a token of gratitude, awarded Mr. Pattakos the gold medal of their city.



The Minister of Coordination Mr. Nikolaos Makarezos inaugurating the new Secondary School of Gravia.



The Minister of Coordination Mr. Nik. Makarezos, as he signs the contract for the extension and modernisation of the shipbuilding installations of the "Neorion Syrou" S.A. shipyard.]

The Deputy Prime Minister, replying amidst warm demonstrations from the assembled crowd, said the following:

"Your Eminence, My dear fellow citizens,

"At last, the shame of the hovel, which degraded beautiful Heraklion and stigmatized the civilisation of our country, has been eradicated. And in its place, we have the dwellings that restore the very honour of the State.

"Five hundred and fifty-two (552) families, who since the year 1919 were degraded to the wretchedness of cave-dwellers, rise to the surface of a tolerable life.

The pre-revolutionary State allocated for the fulfilment of an elementary...



The Deputy Prime Minister of the Government and Minister of the Interior Mr. St. Pattakos, with the Minister of Coordination Mr. N. Makarezos and other officials, inaugurated the new self-service restaurant of the Student Club.

...purpose, justifying its existence, a mere 17 million drachmas. And the Revolutionary Government allocated 48 million, so that even the lips of the poor might smile, with the resolution of their housing situation. And believe me, this smile of happiness is a source of great joy and emotion for the Revolution.

"And the mere comparison of the two eras 1919–1966 and 1967–1969, to...

...which the figures of 18 and 48 million drachmas correspond respectively, is, I believe, sufficient to hurl all the stones of this land against the pre-revolutionary regime."

The Deputy Prime Minister of the Government and Minister of the Interior Mr. Pattakos inaugurated last year the new national road from Agrinio. The cost of the work, 69 km. in length, amounted to 520,000,000 drachmas. At the ceremony there were also present the Minister of Public Works Mr. Papadimitriou, the Under-Secretary of Social Services Mr. Dimitras, secretaries-general of ministries, the general inspector of prefectures, senior government officials, local ecclesiastical, civil and military authorities, as well as a large crowd of people. Afterwards, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Government and Minister of the Interior, heading a government delegation, proceeded to Polygyros and inaugurated a Technical School.

Mr. Pattakos then directed himself immediately to the Technical School, where students of various specialisations in vocational orientation will study, and whose construction required expenditure of 8,000,000 drachmas.

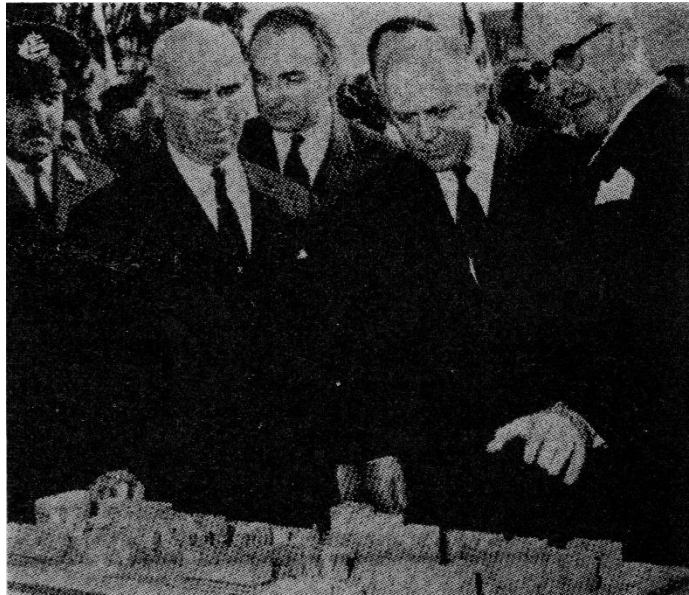
After the inauguration ceremony concluded, the Deputy Prime Minister presided over an extended meeting, attended by members of the government delegation, the Nomarch and the heads of the regional services of the Chalkidiki Prefecture. During the meeting, a review was made of the work accomplished in the prefecture, across all sectors of state activity.



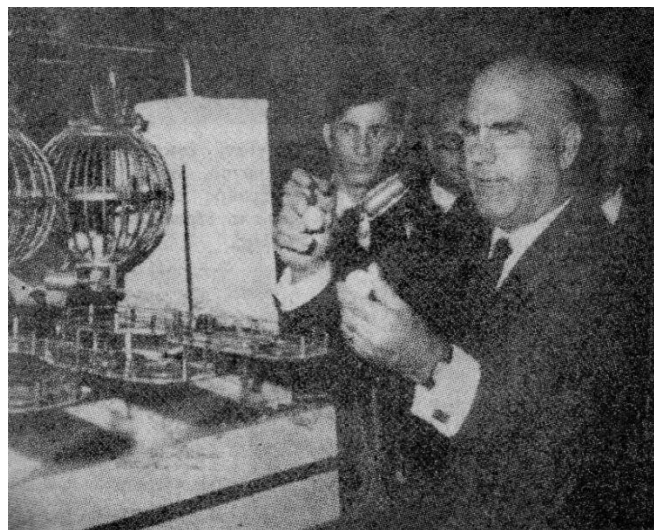
Prime Minister Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos in Thessaloniki inaugurated — in an official ceremony — the rubber manufacturing plant of the "Goodyear" company.

By Royal Decrees signed by the Ministers of National Education and Finance Messrs. Th. Papakonstantinou and A. Androutsopoulos, 546 new kindergartens are established and 667 primary schools are upgraded. As a result of this arrangement, by which elementary education in the country is improved, 882 new positions of educational officers were created, namely 260 teachers, 600 kindergarten teachers and 22 teachers for Muslim schools.

The Mayor of Athens Mr. A. Ritsos announced yesterday to press representatives the new road programme for 1970, which provides for the asphaltting of 350 roads in the Municipality, with a total length of 52 km. and an estimated cost of 60 million drachmas. The road and asphaltting programme implemented in 1969 involved the asphaltting of 700 roads of 120 km. in length at a cost of 120 million drachmas. Presenting the municipal accounts for last year, Mr. Ritsos announced the



In Tavros, the foundation ceremony took place on Saturday for a complex of 13 apartment buildings in which 508 shanty-town families from the area will be housed. The foundation stone was laid by the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. St. Pattakos.



A scene from the lottery draw for 624 workers' dwellings in Piraeus for the housing of an equal number of families. The Deputy Prime Minister of the Government and Minister of the Interior Mr. St. Pattakos, as he draws the first number from the lottery box.

following: 1) Maintenance of 400 roads at a cost of 9 million drachmas. 2) 23.166 million drachmas were allocated for squares, parks and architectural works. 3) Pavements of 32,000 sq.m. were constructed at a cost of 6 million drachmas. 4) 15,000 lighting fixtures were installed on roads of 400 km., at a cost of 34 million drachmas. The Mayor emphasised that shortly he would announce the commencement of works for the construction of parks and 21 fountains.

In 1969, 300,000,000 drachmas were allocated for the port of Heraklion and the completed works were inaugurated by the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. St. Pattakos.

That same year, the Minister of Merchant Marine Mr. Ioan. Holevas inaugurated the School of Preparatory Training of the Merchant Navy of Preveza.



Prime Minister Mr. G. Papadopoulos, as he cuts the ribbon, inaugurating the University Campus of Patras. On either side of the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior Mr. St. Pattakos and the Minister of Coordination Mr. N. Makarezos. At the centre and behind the Prime Minister, the Minister of Education Mr. N. Sioris can be seen.



The Ecumenical Patriarch Mr. Athenagoras with the Deputy Prime Minister of the Government and Minister of the Interior Mr. St. Pattakos.



Prime Minister Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos paid a surprise visit to the Women's Reformatory, accompanied by members of the Government.



The President of the Lemnian Brotherhood of America, Mr. G. Vrikos, handing over a cheque for \$2,050 to Mr. Pattakos for the earthquake victims of Lemnos and Agios Efstratios.



Prime Minister Mr. G. Papadopoulos receiving the new Budget from the Minister of Finance Mr. Ad. Androutsopoulos.



The Patriarch of Alexandria and Pope of All Africa, His Eminence Nikolaos, conferring the insignia of the Grand Cross of Saint Mark upon the Regent, Lieutenant General Mr. Georgios Zoitakis.

On 24 November 1969, the Regent, Lieutenant General G. Zoitakis, together with the Ministers of Coordination Mr. N. Makarezos, Agriculture Mr. Papavlachopoulos, the Under-Secretary of Social Services Mr. Dimitras and other dignitaries, inaugurated the Cultural Centre of the Roumeliots.

In 1969, by decision of the Minister of Social Services Mr. L. Patras, 64 midwives were appointed to rural medical centres and health stations in all prefectures without exception.

In the same year 1969 the inauguration of the New "Marina" of Glyfada took place, after which the Mayor of Glyfada Mr. Lazaridis addressed the dignitaries, followed by the Secretary General of the E.O.T. Mr. Mich. Balopoulos.

The Deputy Prime Minister Mr. St. Pattakos in 1969 inaugurated the new factory of the company "Siemens Telecommunications" in Thessaloniki. On Hymettus he laid the foundation stone for a large school complex amid enthusiastic demonstrations from the crowds. In Preveza on 19 February 1969 the same Deputy Prime Minister Mr. St. Pattakos laid the foundation stone for the General State Hospital of the city. In the same year the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Coordination Mr. N. Makarezos inaugurated the new student cafeteria of the "self-service" type.



The Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Styl. Pattakos and the Under-Secretary Mr. Tsistopoulos receive the Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa Nicholas, at the Grand Bretagne hotel, at which a luncheon was given in his honour.

In 1968 the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. St. Pattakos inaugurated a major water supply project in Megara, an unfulfilled dream of the inhabitants for many decades, with water brought from a distance of 25 km. In the same year the Minister of Coordination Mr. N. Makarezos inaugurated the new industrial unit of the Metaxa Company with an annual production of 6,000,000 bottles of spirits. In 1968 Prime Minister Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos attended the unveiling of the statue of the "Father of our Race," the late Cretan Eleftherios Venizelos in Athens. In Thessaloniki he inaugurated the rubber manufacturing factory of the company "Goodyear" and laid the foundation stone for the construction of a new courthouse.

In the following year 1969 the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Styl. Pattakos, together with the Minister of Social Services Mr. Patras, the Minister of Public Works Mr. K. Papadimitriou and other dignitaries, drew lots for 408 apartments which were assigned to an equal number of families from the shantytown of Dourgouti. The same Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Styl. Pattakos in the same year 1969 drew lots in Therisou of Heraklion for 552 apartments and handed them over in the Therisou area to house an equal number of poor families who had been living since 1919 under conditions that brought shame to the Greek name.



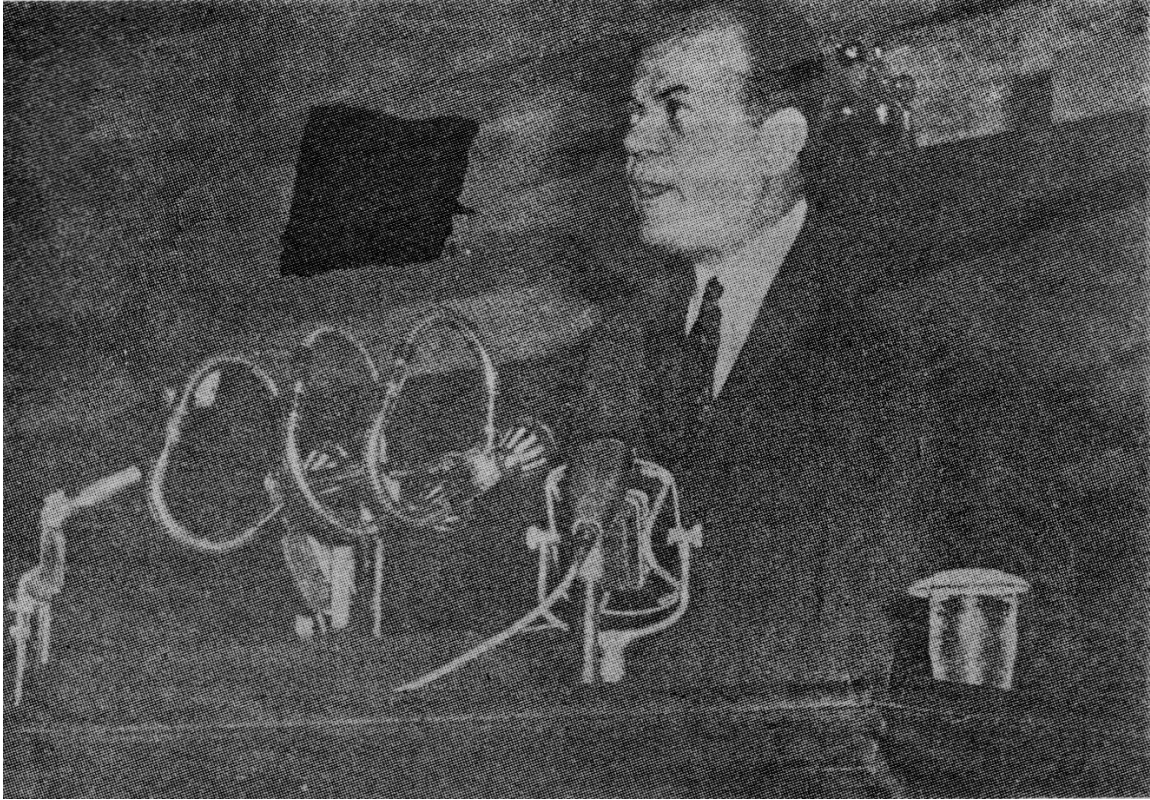
Prime Minister Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos, upon whom the Patriarch of Alexandria and Pope of All Africa Nicholas the Sixth conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of the Apostle and Evangelist Mark.

In the previous year the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior Mr. Styl. Pattakos drew lots for another 624 workers' homes in Piraeus for the housing of an equal number of poor families. In the previous year 546 new kindergartens were established.

According to an announcement by the Mayor of Athens to press representatives, during the two-year period 1969–1970, 350 streets of Athens were asphalted, maintenance was carried out on 400 streets, 15,000 lighting fixtures were installed along 400 km of roads, 24,000,000 drachmas were allocated for squares, parks and architectural works, and 32 kilometres of pavements were constructed. In the previous year the Minister of Public Works Mr. Papadimitriou, inaugurating the new Corinth–Patras Road of 130 km, emphasised during the ceremony the significance of the road, noting that it would contribute greatly to the further economic development and tourist progress of the Peloponnese. In the same year workers' housing buildings were erected in the Koumantza area of Pieria prefecture and five (5) four-storey workers' apartment blocks.

The inauguration of the National Road from Thermopylae – Amfissa – Itea – Galaxidi – Nafpaktos – Antirrio is also imminent, the total cost of which will exceed 800 million drachmas.

Apart from the above significant works, the Minister of Public Works for Northern Greece Mr. Alexandros Matthaiou, regarding works carried out in Northern Greece, stated in an interview the following: "Apart from the known works completed and being carried out, the entire...



The Prime Minister of Greece Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos, delivering a speech of great national significance before the representatives of the people in the assembly hall of Parliament.



The Patriarch of Alexandria and Pope of All Africa Nicholas the Sixth departing from Athens to proceed to Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria.



The President of the National Revolutionary Government Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos addressing the Greek people, setting out the enormous work accomplished in 1970 and that programmed for 1971.



One of the first concerns of the National Government was the appointment at the head of the Church of Greece of a worthy and God-inspired leader; and as such was elected the gifted and broadly educated, His Beatitude Archbishop of Athens and All Greece Mr. Hieronymos.

...space of Northern Greece has been transformed into a vast construction site. Enormous works have been completed and are being carried out from the Evros to the Prespes. The asphaltting in 1969 of regional roads of 600 km in length, at a cost of 417,870,000 drachmas; the irrigation project of the Thessaloniki plain for which 465,000,000 drachmas were allocated; the Arda–Evros irrigation network through which 250,000 stremmata will be irrigated; the Polyfytos–Aliakmonas hydroelectric project of 360,000 kilowatts capacity with parallel irrigation of 1,345,000 stremmata...



Prime Minister Mr. Georgios Papadopoulos with his wife, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior Mr. Styl. Pattakos and other dignitaries, on 26 October 1970 in Thessaloniki on the occasion of the Anniversary of the liberation of the city.

...of the Thessaloniki–Katerini plain; the construction of the Egnatia Road at a cost of 150,000,000 dollars; and a host of other major works — these are the mirror of the economic, social and cultural activity of the National Revolutionary Government. For the development of the Thessaly plain, up to June 1970, 750,000,000 drachmas were allocated.

In 1969 the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. St. Pattakos inaugurated a major irrigation project in the Lamari area of Preveza prefecture, through which 28,000 stremmata will be irrigated.

In the previous year 1970 the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. St. Pattakos inaugurated the first section of the major works on the Mornos river for the water supply of the capital. In November of the same year the Prime Minister and Minister of Education Mr. G. Papadopoulos inaugurated the steam-electric power station and the lignite mine of Megalopolis, the completion of which within two and a half years is considered a technical achievement at international level. Finally, in the 52 prefectures of the Country during the three-year period 1967–1969, 77,349,116,000 drachmas were allocated, as against 39,897,564,000 drachmas during the three-year period 1964–1966. Here is the relevant table:

No.	PREFECTURE	1964–1966	1967–1969	% Increase
1	Aetolia-Acarnania	840,979,000	3,578,458,000	325%
2	Argolida	547,360,000	1,131,676,000	106%
3	Arcadia	663,214,000	3,043,529,000	358%
4	Arta	441,738,000	748,983,000	70%
5	Attica	8,804,494,000	15,630,638,000	77%
6	Achaia	1,045,381,000	1,813,567,000	73%
7	Boeotia	700,271,000	1,130,732,000	61%
8	Grevena	288,549,000	511,911,000	71%
9	Drama	549,483,000	1,063,141,000	83%
10	Dodecanese	498,813,000	1,478,703,000	186%
11	Evros	593,780,000	1,226,668,000	106%
12	Euboea	873,399,000	2,331,821,000	166%
13	Evrytania	326,136,000	608,210,000	86%
14	Zakynthos	328,445,000	543,910,000	65%
15	Ilia	998,402,000	1,309,989,000	31%
16	Imathia	549,204,000	1,083,255,000	87%
17	Heraklion	987,931,000	1,672,314,000	82%
18	Thesprotia	338,035,000	627,894,000	86%
19	Thessaloniki	2,170,232,000	4,001,012,000	84%
20	Ioannina	627,265,000	1,098,604,000	75%
21	Kavala	614,025,000	1,150,177,000	87%
22	Karditsa	529,390,000	1,228,722,000	132%
23	Kastoria	347,734,000	576,719,000	66%
24	Corfu	447,015,000	941,903,000	110%
25	Kefalonia	374,927,000	595,719,000	58%
26	Kilkis	424,289,000	753,403,000	78%
27	Kozani	585,453,000	824,693,000	40%
28	Corinthia	739,873,000	1,294,713,000	74%
29	Cyclades	504,090,000	963,912,000	87%
30	Laconia	490,580,000	978,729,000	88%
31	Larissa	791,259,000	1,493,322,000	76%
32	Lasithi	436,104,000	824,218,000	88%
		269		

33	Lesbos	561,805,000	1,057,565,000	88%
34	Lefkada	333,193,000	550,637,000	66%
35	Magnesia	789,936,000	1,230,718,000	55%
36	Messenia	997,614,000	1,497,852,000	50%
37	Xanthi	480,392,000	818,289,000	70%
38	Piraeus	898,751,000	2,185,950,000	143%
39	Pella	712,063,000	1,545,175,000	117%
40	Pieria	431,859,000	926,679,000	114%
41	Preveza	402,072,000	854,236,000	113%
42	Rethymno	427,453,000	797,893,000	86%
43	Rhodope	493,257,000	1,021,776,000	107%
44	Samos	327,726,000	543,931,000	66%
45	Serres	779,851,000	1,484,029,000	80%
46	Trikala	514,381,000	980,508,000	90%
47	Phthiotis	917,971,000	1,671,609,000	82%
48	Florina	418,396,000	687,646,000	65%
49	Phocis	482,156,000	730,588,000	51%
50	Chalkidiki	449,560,000	842,753,000	81%
51	Chania	659,781,000	1,154,723,000	75%
52	Chios	361,497,000	605,313,000	78%
TOTAL		39,897,564,000	77,349,116,000	93%

NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER MR. G. PAPADOPOULOS FOR THE NEW YEAR 1971

Greek People, *The year which is dawning will be a year of sacred memories and new worthy achievements. We shall celebrate with splendour and fervour the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the National Uprising of 1821, which restored our independence. And we shall continue with even greater success the work of national regeneration begun on 21 April 1967, with the awareness that we are safeguarding and extending the priceless inheritance of those who sacrificed themselves for our freedom.*

Our Revolution has not merely created rights according to internationally accepted standards. It is also creating history, the direction and content of which no one can any longer divert or alter. Let all those who deal, in any way whatsoever, with Greece always bear this in mind. It will benefit them greatly, because it offers them a secure perspective and because it will rid them of vain illusions.

A fundamental characteristic of the new reality which we are shaping is that, despite the radical changes imposed from the very first moment, we have not sacrificed the present for the sake of the future. We have improved the present, which we inherited and which you all remember how unpleasant and dangerous it was, and we are simultaneously building a future worthy of Greece. Every honest person can verify with their personal experience the accuracy of this assurance.

The Revolution of 21 April constitutes a unique exception in the history of revolutions. Not only because it was bloodless and undisturbed, a fact which demonstrates its necessity and its response to popular expectations. But also because it imposed no deprivation or sacrifice... But also, because it imposed no deprivation or sacrifice upon the Greek people in the name of future objectives. Its contribution to the Nation is immediate and continuous.

You are already aware of the accomplishments of the past year and of our aims for the year 1971 now begun. I set these out in detail in my speech of 19 December. We are possessed of a justifiable pride in the achievements so far, because they raise the material, cultural and organisational level of the country. And we have all the prerequisites for the fulfilment of the objectives we have programmed



Prime Minister Mr GEORGIOS PAPAPOULOS addressing the lawyers of the capital in the packed hall of the 'Parnassos' Society]

Thanks to the effort undertaken and successfully continued by the Revolution, Greece today finds itself in an enviable position. It enjoys internal tranquillity, of which many countries are deprived, as you know, regardless of their system of government. It has monetary stability, which valorises and safeguards the labours of its citizens. It is developing its production under a free-market regime and is steadily increasing the national income of peace. It is modernising and improving the performance of public administration. It is organising its defence readiness to the level of self-sufficiency.

We feel a particular satisfaction because, with these achievements, we are serving at the same time, to the best of our ability, the security of the free world in a most critical region, and because we are contributing to the maintenance of peace. During the internationally turbulent period of our responsible stewardship of the country's fortunes, whenever our composure was put to the test, we displayed good-faith moderation, which has demonstrably served the cause of peace.

We desire cooperation with all and we do not interfere in anyone's internal affairs. We hope that the others, with the experience already gained, will have understood how futile any interference in our internal affairs would be. Today, moreover, every country has its own problems, far more serious than our own, which can only be addressed on the basis of Greek conditions. We have no need of foreign prescriptions.

The Revolution exercises power with a sincere desire to complete the functioning of the constitutional order as swiftly as possible. However, it does not have the right to jeopardise the fate of the Nation with premature actions. Responsible before the people and before history, it acts with the national interest as its sole criterion and safeguards all freedoms for citizens who abide by the law. Greece has far more and more substantive democracy than many countries which delight in displaying democratic sensitivity or which cloak their brutal totalitarianism with the misappropriated title of democracy.

Calm and full of confidence and optimism, we shall continue the great battle for material, cultural and constitutional development and renewal, in which we have engaged. And we shall win it entirely, because we must and because we possess all the prerequisites of victory. We have the painful experience of the past, whose revival we shall not permit. We enjoy, each separately and all together, the immediate and tangible results of the ongoing effort of reconstruction. We know that we are striving to create, also for our children, a future worthy of the Greek race.

The awareness of the need to recover the time lost before the Revolution, and the consciousness of our moral debt towards our children and towards the generations to come, constitute enormous motivations that will inspire and guide us on our path towards the creation of the new Greece that we envision. With the certainty of such a triumph, I wish the Greek people, on the occasion of the New Year, health, joy and strength.

G. PAPADOPOULOS
Prime Minister

The Chief of the Hellenic Armed Forces, General Odysseas Angelis, on the dawning of the New Year 1971, issued the following order of the day:

"Officers and soldiers of the Armed Forces,

On the occasion of the year that has ended and the year that rises, I wish to express to you my deep appreciation for your achievements during the past year and to address to you my most heartfelt wishes for the year now beginning.



Chief of the Hellenic Armed Forces, General Odysseas Angelis

During the course of the year that has passed, you gave, on many occasions of national and allied exercises, evidence of the high level of your training, readiness and fighting capability, and proved once again that the security and honour of the Homeland have been entrusted to worthy and capable men, imbued with a deep sense of duty, excellent morale, and a high sense of responsibility and patriotic obligation.

This fact strengthens the confidence and esteem that the Greek people hold for its sons in uniform, and inspires in them, beyond a sense of pride, a feeling of security, serenity and calm, so that they may continue, undistracted, the great regenerative effort in which they have engaged, under the warm breath of the Revolution of 21 April.

These conditions, secured by the Armed Forces, constitute invaluable gains, when one takes into account the wave of social unrest, anarchic nihilism and amoralism which, in other countries, threatens to undermine the foundations of Hellenic-Christian Society.

The Armed Forces, looking with confidence and optimism upon the rising year, shall continue with the same unshakeable faith and determination the fulfilment of their high mission."

**Athens, 29 December 1970
General ODYSSEAS M. ANGELIS**

The Secretary General of the Ministry of the Interior, Mr. I. Ladas, in the presence of the Minister of Coordination Mr. Nikolaos Makarezos, the Minister of Labour Mr. P. Manolopoulos, other officials and a large number of students, spoke as follows at the "King Paul" Student Residence on the occasion of the "Dekemvriana":

"NEVER at any other time in Greek History has a similar phenomenon of inhuman cruelty appeared. Never at any other time in Greek History has comparable barbarity of crime been encountered, barbarity of destruction, barbarity of genocide, and never, finally, in Greek History have similar events of Dantesque torment otherwise occurred.



Secretary General of the Ministry of the Interior, Mr. Ioannis Ladas



The communists and their fellow-travellers engaged in unprecedented acts of terrorism. Following the pattern of December 1944, they created centres of fire in the central streets of Athens. Above, a characteristic photograph showing Athens in flames.

"THE BLOOD-SOAKED communist gangsters were not Greeks. That the perpetrators of the December massacres were not Greeks is also evident from the shameful fact that Ioannis Logothetis, commander of an ELAS unit, received an order to blow up the Acropolis. Fortunately, however, before he could carry out the anti-national and unheard-of order of the KKE, the National Forces had driven the communists from the Sacred precinct.

Continuing, the Secretary General of the Ministry of the Interior referred to the chronicle of the massacre, stressing:

"THE POLICEMEN who were captured as prisoners were led to the Oulen works, where their eyes or teeth were pulled out and they were slaughtered. In Peristeri a bucket was found full of eyes. In Kaisariani a drawer full of gold teeth, which were pulled out with pliers while the victim was still alive. At Oulen, near the graves, scattered pulled-out fingernails were found..."

Addressing the students, Mr. I. Ladas said:

"OBSERVE the present-day upsurge of decadence. Observe certain cinematographic works that present to you the annihilation of the human being as creator, which they garnish with music and song. Observe certain so-called literary works, which have ended up as anthologies of pornography. Observe certain so-called songs that hymn defeatism and pessimism. Observe all these things, carefully, in depth and in extent. And then, as scientists and above all as Greeks, ask yourselves: are these happening by chance? Or are they perhaps organised?"

"AT THIS EVENING'S gathering — Mr. I. Ladas concluded — which was held in memory of the victims who were murdered by the KKE, the Criminal Party of Greece, we have a moral duty and patriotic obligation, as Greek Christians, to keep inextinguishable in our conscience the sacred memory of those slaughtered."

The same Secretary General of the Ministry of the Interior, Mr. Ioannis Ladas, a conscientious and steadfast Greek, at the welcome ceremony for first-year students at the University of Patras, stressed the following:

"I BELIEVE without the slightest doubt that the young people of Greece can lead, because they are worthy and because they have the will. I stand before you as a judge who admires what he is judging — that the nine years of war, from 1940 to 1949, were not in vain, when the officers of 21 April and the youth of Greece at that time were fighting the enemies of the Homeland here inside Greece or outside it." "The wave of materialism is shaking the entire so-called civilised world. And I do not know whether we shall ever recover from the turbulent state of the West, which does not affect us, but which causes us moral nausea. Personally, I have no doubt that you have different feelings. When you read of the criminality of foreigners, the moral putrefaction, the triumph of narcotics, leftism and the collapse of values in the so-called advanced countries, you cannot but feel revulsion at the degradation of the various nations, whose biological decline we witness daily."

"We as a Nation, because we are not in danger — and we are not in danger because the temperament of the Greek does not tolerate leaving life as a drug addict or as an anti-social element. Greeks leave this world with their heads held high, as useful social elements."

"Age is not a measure of intellectual and moral worth. But virtue is. Keep this in mind in the shaping of your character. And do not seek virtue in Marx or Mao, for it is not to be found there, but in Plato and Aristotle.

"As for the question of the method of confronting life, for Greeks one and only one method is known, and it is called STRUGGLE. You, modern Greeks, prepare yourselves for a struggle, which means: a fight with myself to overcome my shortcomings so as to be the best, so that I may serve Greece, for 'One is to me ten thousand, if he be the best' as Heraclitus says. That is: for me, one counts for ten thousand if he is the best. Struggle also means competing with my fellow-countryman, so that I may rise while raising the other. Struggle finally means the deployment of all means towards the assertion and dominance of my homeland, of which I myself am a part."

"Your destiny is not science, but science is your equipment, your weapon and your means towards the final goal, which is called Greece. You, my young people, are recruits of an unknown Company, of an unknown Dragatsani, which it is not known when it will occur in your lives, but it will certainly occur, because I repeat: no Greek generation has passed without its own Dragatsani."

"In any case, now through your studies you are being prepared for victory in the peaceful Dragatsani. So that there may be secured for our people and our Nation the social, cultural and material regeneration, since we had fallen far behind because of the wars imposed on us by external and internal enemies."

And Mr Ladas concluded:

"Heads high. You are Greeks. Be diligent, so that you may finish university as quickly as possible, because Destiny has in store for you, as it has for all of us, a national mission. Communisms, materialist-socialisms, hedonisms, hippie long-hairedness and empty words are poverty and treachery. Set your mark. Homeland in the heart. Science in the mind. And struggle and sacrifice in life, for Greece and the honour of the homeland."



Two characteristic photographs from the transport strikes. Athenians crowd together to secure a place on emergency transport vehicles in order to reach their homes or their places of work.

In the recently published booklet of the Ministry of Coordination 'THE REVOLUTION OF 21 APRIL BUILDS THE NEW GREECE', the Minister of Coordination Mr Nikolaos Makarezos, in an article on the economic question as a whole facing the Country, states:

"The development policy of the Government of 21 April, entirely animated by the principles of liberal economics and based on the free action of private initiative, is open and outward-looking.

This means that economic policy and development, primarily as a matter for the people, is planned and implemented not without the people, but through their active participation and continuous information, and that the Greek economy is being advanced for the first time into the orbit of international economic activity, because only thus shall we approach, as swiftly as possible, the standard of living of the other developed countries of the Western World."

"When, three years ago, we engaged in the great and most difficult yet beautiful peaceful struggle of economic development, adopting a new development policy characterised by realism — through the synthesis of 'what ought to be' with 'what can be' — and announced the FIVE-YEAR PROGRAMME OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY 1968–1972, opinions were heard from... even well-intentioned observers, since this was considered not merely bold but excessively ambitious and unattainable.

Today everyone acknowledges that we have succeeded not only in covering but in surpassing the targets of the five-year programme.

We have achieved growth rates among the highest in the world.

We see our country steadily occupying enviable positions in the comparative tables of International Organisations and Institutions.

We hear foreign objective observers praising the progress. In vain would one seek throughout the whole Country even a single settlement, however small, in whose area at least one work of development and progress has not been realised in the days of the Revolution.

THE ENTIRE GREEK TERRITORY IS COVERED BY AN IMMENSE NETWORK OF DEVELOPMENT WORKS IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

Investment activity is expanding rapidly in all productive branches, towards the exploitation of every wealth-producing resource of the country. The dream of entire Greek generations is being transformed into living reality. The New Greece of the Revolution is being built."

Concluding, the Minister of Coordination Mr Nikolaos Makarezos stressed: I consider it my duty to praise once again the great creator, the brave and ingenious Greek People, who stood unshaken before the malicious attacks of their domestic and foreign enemies and gave to the National Government their full confidence and support, without which we would not today be in a position to speak of great or small achievements. Through this prudent and proud stance, as well as through their labour, they have already made the Homeland a place of joy and creation, an oasis of serenity amid a turbulent world.

Every objective critic, every good-faith Greek, can easily reflect on the toil, the care and the activity being expended by the present-day rulers for the projection of a new Greece worthy of its history.

Thanks to this toil and the prudent policy of the divinely inspired national builders of 21 April 1967, all classes of the Greek People today prosper as never before.

Thanks to this prudent policy of the leaders of the National Government, we enjoy all freedoms both as individuals and as a Nation. This is not acknowledged only by those who wilfully stop their ears, those who wilfully close their eyes, the former leaders of the parties of corruption, the adherents of the criminal communist-rule ... "democracy", and all those who do not love Greece.

Thanks to this care for and intense interest in all classes of the Greek People on the part of the National Government, Greek Athletics was trained and developed under the most capable and excellent Secretary General Mr Konstantinos Aslanidis, and for the first time achieved results and victories worthy of acclaim in many events, wrestling not excluded. Thanks to this noble effort of the National Government on behalf of Greek Athletics, the Board of Directors of the Commercial Bank of Greece also lent its eager support, which on 18 December of the past year 1970, through the Chairman of its Board of Directors Mr Stratis G. Andreadis, awarded a gold medal to the world pole-vault champion Mr Christos Papanikolaou during a ceremony organised for that purpose.



The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Commercial Bank of Greece, Mr Stratis Andreadis, presenting the gold medal to the world pole-vault champion, Mr Christos Papanikolaou.

Thanks to this Hellenic training and also education of Greek footballers, Panathinaikos twice achieved a draw against EVERTON, one of the four football clubs of world renown.

Thanks to this intense interest of the National Government, the athletes of Greece and its sports fans regained the morale they had lost under the corrupt-communist rule, when the vagrant Lambrakis youth, supported by the contemptible Andreas, DESTROYED AND BURNED THE STADIUMS, because Greece was not to be permitted to boast of its athletics. The objective aim of the communists was the complete disintegration and dissolution of Greek Athletics and for a moment, we may say, they achieved it.

Today, in defiance of all the enemies of Greece, we enjoy a gentleness of manners in a community of ennobled endeavours such as we have never known as a Nation.

Today the athletes of Greece, thanks to the state's care, interest and concern, with their morale and political spirit in full vigour, are performing wonders, applauded by hundreds of thousands of fans AND ALSO BY THE WIFE OF THE PRIME MINISTER OF GREECE, who thus expresses her support for their noble efforts and her enthusiasm, while in the case of some great victory, such as that over EVERTON, out of unrestrained enthusiasm she congratulates them in person, inside the very stadium itself.



Without hesitations or prejudices, therefore, let us be proud of the present-day leaders, creators of a Greece that illuminates the whole of humanity, as in 1940–1941.

Every Greek everywhere on Earth should give thanks to the Most High, because on 21 April 1967 the sword-bearing leaders of the National Revolution bloodlessly saved Mother Greece from destruction, and because a truly great leap forward is being accomplished towards the progress and prosperity of all Greeks."



On the anniversary of 21 April 1967, His Eminence the Metropolitan of Lemnos Panteleimon, the Military Commander of Lemnos Lieutenant-Colonel Mr Georgios Ladonikolaos, and the Prefect of Lemnos Mr Evangelos Varlamis, in Myrina, the capital of Lemnos.



The wife of the Prime Minister of Greece, Mrs. Despoina Papadopoulou, watching the PANATHINAIKOS–EVERTON match together with the Secretary General for Athletics Mr K. Aslanidis.