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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

JOHN H. MCELROY IS
CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

April 30, 1973

Mr. Elias P. Demetracopoulos
Fairfax Hotel
2100 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Elias:

As a result of your bringing to my attention the imprisonment in Greece of six lawyers and of Professor Tsatsos and Mrs. Tsouderos, I wrote to Secretary of State Rogers on April 6, expressing my deep concern and calling on him to use the influence of our Government to ensure that the arrested persons be granted the fundamental legal rights to which they are entitled.

This morning I received a reply from Mr. Marshall Wrights, Acting Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations in the State Department. It seemed to me to contain several points of interest in connection with the specific matter which prompted my letter, and I therefore enclose a copy for your information.

Thank you again for calling this matter to my attention.

Sincerely,



Birch Bayh
United States Senator



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

APR 25 1973

Honorable Birch Bayh
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Bayh:

The Secretary has asked me to reply to your letter of April 6 regarding the arrest in Greece of six lawyers and more recently of Professor Demotrios Tsatsos and Mrs. Virginia Tsouderos. According to reports we have seen, Messrs. Alavanos, Kanellakis, Vgontsas, Karamanlis, Pappas, and Bouloukos were arrested over a period of several days at the end of February and the beginning of March, and have since been held without preferment of formal charges or access to counsel. We are also aware of allegations that they have been subjected to mistreatment but have no direct means of confirming these reports.

We have consistently opposed as a violation of human rights the indefinite detention of persons without charges and without access to a lawyer. Thus, we have most recently made known to the Government of Greece both through our Embassy in Athens and through the Greek Embassy here in Washington the depth of concern in the United States about the six lawyers and others recently detained in Greece.

Representatives of the International League for the Rights of Man and the International Commission of Jurists, as you indicated, recently visited Greece for the purpose of inquiring of the Government of Greece on behalf of the six imprisoned lawyers. Our Embassy in Athens attempted to arrange meetings for the representatives with appropriate officials of the Government of Greece. Although Greek authorities chose not to receive the representatives, we believe that the

visit nonetheless was significant in underscoring the seriousness with which key opinion makers in the United States view what has been reported as a violation of fundamental human rights.

Please continue to call on me whenever you believe we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,



Marshall Wright
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations



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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
(PURSUANT TO SEC. 3, S. RES. 9, 870 CONGRESS)
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

April 6, 1973

Mr. Elias P. Demetropoulos
Fairfax Hotel
2100 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Elias:

I enclose for your information a copy of a letter I am sending today to Secretary of State Rogers.

Based on the very important information you provided to me, my letter to the Secretary expresses what I hope he will understand to be my grave concern over the reported action of the Greek Government in jailing six defense attorneys and two distinguished intellectuals who protested that jailing.

Please continue to keep me informed as to the situation in Greece according to the best information available to you.

With warm personal regards.

Sincerely,


Birch Bayl
United States Senator

Encl.

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COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
(PURSUANT TO RES. 1, S. RES. 14, 93rd CONGRESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

April 6, 1973

The Honorable
William P. Rogers
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have just learned that the Government of Greece has jailed the six lawyers who served as defense attorneys for student leaders arrested during the demonstrations earlier this year. According to the report furnished me these lawyers -- Messrs. Akyanos, Vgontzas, Pappas, Karamanlis, Kanellakis, and Bouloukos -- are being held incommunicado and subjected to torture by the special interrogation branch of the Greek military police, in a building opposite our own Embassy in Athens.

In addition, Professor Demetrios Tsatsos, professor of constitutional law at Bonn University in Germany, and Mrs. Virginia Tsouderos, an American-trained sociologist and daughter of Greece's wartime premier, were arrested after protesting the arrest of the defense lawyers and are being held in the same prison.

As a lawyer and as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I am appalled by this report. If true, it describes a course of action by the Greek Government wholly inconsistent with the standards of official conduct we have a right to expect from governments receiving United States aid.

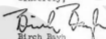
It is my further understanding that the highly respected International League for the Rights of Man, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the United Nations is sending an investigative commission to Athens today. I am sure you share my strong desire that the Greek Government provide the investigative commission every opportunity to investigate these reports, and hopefully to find that they are in error.

The Honorable
William P. Rogers
April 6, 1973
Page 2

If, however, the reports prove to be substantially accurate, I strongly urge you to use your influence with the Greek Government to secure the early and unconditional release of the six defense attorneys. Even if our worst fears about torture are unfounded, the very fact of their imprisonment for obeying the dictates of their profession is a violation of the most basic principles which it is the purpose of our foreign policy to uphold.

I await the courtesy of your early reply.

Sincerely,



Birch Bayh
United States Senator

