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Front Page	Edits Page	Other Page
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STAR

E - 325,351  
S - 396,692

AUG 1 11972

## Greek Role Cited

St. Louis (AP)—Sen. Nakis, leader of an organization representing 2 million Greek-Americans, yesterday attacked Sen. George McGovern's recent call for an end to U.S. aid to Greece.

McGovern's attitude may have been unduly influenced by a journalist, Elias Demetriopoulos, who has been critical of Greece's military regime, said Nakis, a resident of Hazelwood, Mo., near St. Louis.

Nakis is president of the 50,000-member American Hellenic Education Progressive Association.

McGovern is forgetting the indisputable fact that Greece today is the lone ally of the U.S. in that part of the world, Nakis contended.

"Whatever he may personally find objectionable in the present Greek government, our Sixth Fleet would be a fleet without a port were it not for the accommodations offered," Nakis said.

"Our military aid to Greece while ensuring the continuation of an Independent Greece, must primarily be viewed as an essential factor of the U.S. defense establishment," he said.

Nakis suggested that the Democratic presidential nominee should take a trip to Greece to gain a better understanding of the situation in that country.

AUGUST 10, 1972

As Supreme President of Ahepa, the nation's largest Greek-American organization, I must take issue with the recent statement of Senator George McGovern that, if elected, he intends to end all U. S. aid to Greece.

Last year, at the 49th Supreme Convention of the Order of Ahepa, a resolution was passed enforcing continued military aid to Greece. It is my duty as president to remind legislators--and the Democratic presidential nominee--of this resolution. Since the announcement of Senator McGovern's position on the Greek question, my office has been besieged with calls from Ahepa members and other Greek-Americans, demanding that their views be made known. We are not alone. Our concern is properly shared by most Americans, who know the danger of the United States in any proposal designed to weaken or destroy the effectiveness of Greek defenses.

I am afraid Senator McGovern, who is apparently basing his attitude on the position of a self-proclaimed expatriate Greek spokesman, journalist Elias Demetropoulos, has not fully examined the realities of the situation.

He is forgetting the indisputable fact that Greece today is our lone ally in that part of the world, and that, despite whatever he may personally find objectionable in the present Greek government, our Sixth Fleet would be a fleet without a port were it not for the accommodations offered--with no strings attached--by our NATO ally, Greece.

(And the NATO alliance, I must remind Senator McGovern, was created as a bulwark against Communism. The internal affairs of any NATO country do not alter the main purpose of the alliance.)

Greek-American friendship is a matter of historic record. We have few allies in the world today whose friendship toward America is as staunch as is that of the Greek people. Even in the face of reduced or eliminated American aid, Greece has never abandoned her obligations as a NATO ally, and we must not forget this.

As to the structure of the present Greek Government, I am not going to debate its merits or flaws. Greek internal politics are the business of the Greek people; but, as the Los Angeles TIMES editorialized recently on the subject of military aid to Greece, "...one can't ignore the fact that most of the people of Greece prefer the colonels to the fact of Albania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, their northern neighbors."

And so do the majority of Americans of Greek descent--1 1/2 million of them voters, by the way--who view with extreme disfavor any move to eliminate military aid to Greece and thereby leave her people vulnerable to Communist domination.

Our military aid to Greece, while ensuring the continuation of an independent Greece, must primarily be viewed as an essential factor of the U. S. defense establishment, and in defense dollars, it is a bargain. Again, I quote from the Los Angeles TIMES: "In the few fiscal years after the colonels took over, military aid has totaled \$162.2 million, which figures out at about half the average annual rate of military aid in the 25 years since the war. We don't think that is excessive, particularly in light of the strategic situation as the Soviet Union seeks a new balance of power in the Mediterranean."

Senator McGovern's imperfect understanding of the situation in Greece today, and of the importance of Greece to the overall security of the United States, moves me to propose that as soon as possible he schedule a trip to Greece, to discover through personal observation the facts of the matter.

To assist him in this mission, I offer myself as a guide, and assure the Senator I will make available to him partisans of every faction in the Greek political controversy.

I am confident that after personal study of the Greek scene and its people, Senator McGovern will reassess his position on the Greek question.

If he is to be a responsible leader of the American people, I consider it mandatory that he take note, as have former great presidents, including former President Harry S. Truman and our incumbent President, Richard Nixon, that a strong Greek alliance is indispensable to the survival of Western liberty.

ORDER OF ANITA

SAM WAKIS,  
Supreme President



The Honorable George S. McGovern  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McGovern:

Our congratulations to you on having been selected as the nominee of the Democratic Party for the office of President of the United States, in which endeavor we wish you well.

Last October you received a copy of the resolution that was unanimously passed by the 1971 Ahepa Supreme Convention calling for continued military aid to Greece. Copy of resolution attached.

Prior to the United States Senate vote on military aid to Greece, we dispatched a telegram to your office affirming our position and soliciting your support for military aid to Greece.

Greek Americans were elated by the final action of the United States Senate in voting 49 to 31 in favor of continued military aid to Greece without restrictions.

These Greek Americans, however, Mr. Senator, today are dismayed, distressed and certainly disappointed in your statement that if elected, you would not only cut out military aid to Greece but you would even curtail high-level civilian and military travel to Greece.

Your stand represents a triumph for the Communist world.

It is not our purpose to involve ourselves in Greek politics. "The involvement of one country into the internal affairs of another country is what creates Viet Kams."

We, as Greek Americans, all of whom have blood relatives in Greece, know the Greek people to be dynamic, resilient, brilliant people who are fully capable of taking care of their own politics. In their own way, if given the economic and social basis, the Greeks can, and will, build a viable society.

The most distressing fact of all, Mr. Senator, is that you, projected as a potential President of the United States, would place such emphasis on alienations attempted by misinformed citizens, but especially the self-proclaimed expatriate of Greece, Elias Demetresopoulos, whose credibility I would have to challenge and whose profession of idealistic motivation is extremely suspect.

These expatriates of Greece, whose propaganda you have accepted, do not represent the Greek working press nor the Greek people. They speak only for themselves and for whatever personal gain and glory they hope to achieve by the publicity they are receiving.

Again, in the instance of Mr. Elias Demetresopoulos our information has it that he was against the administration of Prime Minister Konstantinos Karamalis, which was a democratic form of government. He was against Greece becoming a member of NATO and now he finds himself against the current government of Greece.

I might question, under these facts, exactly what does he represent and who is he actually for?

I ask you, Mr. Senator, to please consider that there are approximately 1 1/2 million voters of Greek descent, all of them having friends and relatives in Greece. The lines of communication are open; thousands upon thousands of them have visited Greece recently; and some, like myself, have made several trips.

Practically all tell the same story - the large majority of the Greek people support their present government and will probably continue to support it so long as they can see their efforts for economic and social betterment.

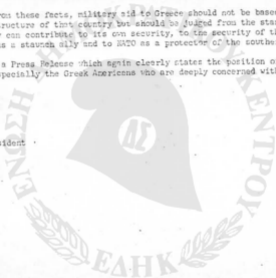
But aside from these facts, military aid to Greece should not be based upon the political structure of that country but should be judged from the standpoint of what that country can contribute to its own security, to the security of the United States of America as a staunch ally and to NATO as a protector of the southern flank.

Attached is a Press Release which again clearly states the position of the Order of Ahepa and especially the Greek Americans who are deeply concerned with your position.

Sincerely,

Sam Nakis  
Supreme President

Enclosure



SAN FRANCISCO, CA.,  
CHRONICLE

M - 480,233

JUL 27 1972

## Christopher Mail Drive for Nixon

By George Murphy

In addition to his other problems, Democratic presidential nominee George McGovern may be in serious trouble with the country's Greek-Americans, former San Francisco Mayor George Christopher said yesterday.

Christopher, a Republican, disclosed that "several leading Greek-Americans" are in the process of getting out a nationwide mailing urging the re-election of President Nixon.

### REASON

The reason for their discontent, Christopher said, is McGovern's statement earlier this month that, if elected, he would cut off all U.S. aid to Greece.

"You know," Christopher said, "there are about one and one-third million Greek American voters in this country.

The Democratic party platform says on Greece:

"Cease American support for the repressive Greek military government."

McGovern enlarged on

that in a July 22 letter to Elias P. Demetracopolus, a leader of Greek refugees in Washington.

The candidate wrote:

"In January of next year, I would announce the immediate termination of all U.S. aid to the Greek dictatorship."

He said he would also order a review of the agreement in principle reached earlier this year "between the Nixon Administration and the Greek dictatorship," granting a home-post facility near Athens for elements of the U.S. Sixth Fleet.

### LEADERS

Christopher said leaders of the Nation's Greek-Americans (of which he is one) are particularly incensed because "McGovern has said we should not interfere in the internal problems of another nation — but what is he planning to do about Greece?"

Christopher was offered a position as honorary delegate to the Republican National Convention next month, but turned it down.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

STAR

JUL 30 1972

E - 303,506

S - 338,862

JAMES J. KILPATRICK

## McGovern Writes a Foolish Letter on Greece

George McGovern delivered himself of a foolish public letter the other day, spelling out the policies he would put into effect, as president, in the matter of Greece. One does not have to be an expert on Greece (I certainly am not) to find in his statement some disturbing reflections on the candidate's state of mind.

McGovern's letter was addressed to Elias Demetrapoulos, a one-time political writer and minor journalist in Athens, now in exile here in Washington. The fact of the letter itself is curious, for Demetrapoulos is not, one would hope, the vehicle through which a prospective president would convey a major position on foreign policy.

Demetrapoulos never was a major figure in the Greek press. He holds no official position of any sort. He is remembered in Athens as the author of a story in August of 1963, based upon a forged letter, that gave currency to vicious anti-American propaganda. One Athens paper on Tuesday recalled him as "an

obscure and suspicious person."

Following the revolution of 1967, Demetrapoulos fled Greece, turned up in Communist Poland at a Socialist's meeting, then established himself in plush surroundings here in Washington as a lobbyist. He cultivated the notion that he was a leader in the anti-movement. He captivated such senators as Hartke of Indiana and Gravel of Alaska. He wooed liberal members of the press. Socially attractive, politically persuasive, he has cut quite a swath. Washington has many such personages of intrigue and mystery. Prudent men treat them with prudence.

Not McGovern. His letter to Demetrapoulos pulls all the stops. He promises his people that if elected president, he will cut off all U.S. aid to the "military dictatorship in Greece." He strongly indicates that he would cancel the Nixon decision to make Athens a home port for the Mediterranean fleet. He voluntarily pledges himself to cut U.S. military personnel in Greece "to an absolute min-

imum," and adds that he would "sharply curtail the number of visits to Greece by high-ranking civilians and military officials."

It is an extraordinary statement. It suggests, among other things, the lamentable inexperience of Senator McGovern in the field of foreign affairs. Gratuitously to insult an ally is an act of bush-league diplomacy, and needless to make promises in so sensitive a field is to take positions before they have to be taken.

But the letter to Demetrapoulos is more than a tactical blunder. Here McGovern lends respectability to the handful of extreme leftists, identified with former Premier Andreas Papandreu, whose purpose is the violent overthrow of the present regime. These counter-revolutionaries make no bones about their goal.

"There is absolutely no possibility for an evolutionary solution of the Greek problem," Papandreu said in a statement last October. He urged his followers to a course of "dynamic armed struggle and harsh confrontation." In place

of the colonels' regime he promised a new order that would be "Socialist and not simply social democratic," which is to say, Socialist in the Communist pattern of East Germany.

The suspicion will not go away that Demetrapoulos and his friends have made a prize sucker out of George McGovern. Their object is power for themselves; they propose quite simply to throw the present rascals out and to put their own rascals in. They do not promise a free society.

It is easy to criticize the colonels' regime; it has done some bad things. But it has accomplished much good also, in terms of internal order and economic growth. If the Papandreu gang should take over, a NATO ally would be lost, and the Greek people would merely become new victims of a different despotism. By foolishly aligning himself with this crowd, McGovern reveals the innocence of a ribbon clerk in a high-stakes game. One would prefer, in a presidential nominee, a man who plays his cards close to his chest.

WASHINGTON, D.C.  
STAR

E - 303,506  
S - 338,862

AUG 10 1972

-JAMES J. KILPATRICK

## On Greece: Some Amends and Amplifications

Let me come back, if I may, to the matter of George McGovern and Greece. I dealt with the story in a column 10 days ago. Certain amends and amplifications need to be made.

Standing squarely in the center of this affair is the handsome, enigmatic figure of one of Washington's most polished and effective lobbyists, Elias P. Demetrasopoulos. Among the Greeks in exile who hangar for the center of the present military regime, actress Melina Mercouri makes the biggest splash, and Prof. Andreas Papandreu, up in Canada, rings the most violent alarm. But the exile who gets the most accomplished is, as McGovern addressed him on July 17, "Dear Elias."

He is a very remarkable fellow. In my recent column, I described him as (1) a minor journalist in Athens, who (2) turned up at a journalist's meeting in Communist Poland

when he fled Greece in 1967; and I said he was (3) remembered in Athens as the author of a newspaper story in 1963, based upon a forged letter that gave currency to vicious anti-American propaganda.

As (1): The "minor" was major, and I apologize for it. The conservative weekly, *Heptan Eftimeris*, has described Demetrasopoulos as "the foremost political editor in Greece," and Herman Kahn, of the Hudson Institute, has identified him as "the distinguished political editor in exile."

As to (2): He did indeed turn up at a journalists' meeting in Warsaw when he escaped from Greece, but the meeting was the sixth in a series sponsored by the United Nations. He had been officially invited to attend.

As to (3): In August 1963, when Demetrasopoulos was working in Athens for the newspaper *Enthos*, its pub-

lisher received a photocopy of a letter purporting to have been written by Col. Oliver K. Marshall, then Army attaché at the American Embassy. The letter appeared to acknowledge CIA responsibility for an explosion at Georgetown the preceding November that killed 16 persons.

Demetrasopoulos says that when he was called in on the story, he suspected a forgery. His suspicions were confirmed by the embassy, which denounced the document as "clearly a fabrication." Other newspapers in Athens were understood to have received the purported letter also.

In an effort to beat the competition, *Enthos* on Aug. 1 backed into the story through a lead paragraph quoting the embassy as denying the validity of the forged letter, which *Enthos* then splashed all over its front page. Demetrasopoulos says the decision thus

to publicize the letter, while denying its authenticity, was not his own, but his publisher's. In any event, the story created a sensation, and was seized upon the next day by the Communist paper *Avgi* for anti-American exploitation.

Following his escape, Demetrasopoulos settled in Washington. He became a consultant for Brumberg & Co., members of the New York Stock Exchange. He continued to work as a journalist, but mostly he set out to win friends and to influence people on Capitol Hill. He cultivated such diverse senators as Byrd of Virginia and Javits of New York. A personable bachelor, he became an extra man for dinner. Sigon Thurmond gave him a warmly inscribed photograph. In the annals of high-level lobbying, he holds a respected place.

His labors against the junta were rewarded a year ago, when the House approved an amendment urging a halt to American aid to Greece. But his greatest successes came last month in Miami, when he first persuaded key Democrats to include an anti-junta plank in the Democratic platform, and then received the "Dear Elias" letter from McGovern. It was in this letter that McGovern graciously spelled out what he would do about Greece "in January of next year."

What is puzzling in all this is the apparent willingness of so many key political figures to swallow, hook, bait and sucker, the line Demetrasopoulos is feeding them. He himself is staunchly anti-Communist, but overthrow of the present regime would invite the instability and political chaos the Communists most desire. McGovern hasn't thought this thing through — and McGovern, alas, is not alone.





WASHINGTON, D. C.  
POST

M - 1500, 111970  
S - 657,560

Rowland Evans and Robert Novak

## Greek Aid and Israeli Safety: Scuttling the Nixon Connection

HIDDEN in an unfiled report to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is a revelation demystifying President Nixon's public rationale for military aid to the Greek military dictatorship: A frank admission from Israel's military high command that U.S. naval bases in Greece are not essential to Israeli security.

The report, submitted by Sen. Frank Church of Idaho following a trip to the Middle East, quotes "high military officials" in Israel as contradicting Mr. Nixon's linkage of U.S. military aid to Greece with Israel's safety. Nor was Church quoting bureaucratic underlings or street rumors: in Tel Aviv, he conferred with two of Israel's top generals.

Thus, Israel for the first time has conceded semiofficially that Greece, apprehensive about 60,000 Greek nationals in the Arab world, would never permit its naval bases to be used against Arab powers no matter what the form of government in Athens. Heretofore, the Israelis have refrained from admitting the obvious for fear of antagonizing the Nixon administration. They have broken this reticence because of a series of domestic American political maneuvers last summer.

The chain of events began July 17 when Sen. George McGovern, the new Democratic presidential nominee, wrote Greek exile leader Elias P. Demetresopoulos in Washington promising, if elected, to halt all U.S. aid to the Greek dictatorship. The release of McGovern's letter July 23 generated an orchestrated Republican response based on this honey political tactic: The unpopular cause (the Greek dictators) to a popular one (Israel's survival).

On NBC's "Meet the Press" July 23, Nixon intimate John B. Connally claimed eliminating Greek aid would destroy "the very foundation of any security . . . in the Middle East." On July 24, Sens. Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, Senate minority leader, and Robert Dole of Kansas, Republican national chairman, delivered similar pronouncements.

On July 27, Mr. Nixon himself wailed in. At one of his infrequent press conferences, the President brought up Greek aid, though no question was asked. "Without aid to Greece," he said, ". . . you have no viable policy to save Israel."

IN ATHENS, the colonels were apoplectic, fearful the Republican cam-

paigned barrage would undermine their relations with the Arabs. Greek newspapers, which had routinely received a wire service dispatch on Mr. Nixon's statement, were sent this frantic message from the government's Athens News Agency at 5:45 a.m., July 28: "To the editors: Please ignore cable from Washington concerning Nixon." The controlled Greek press obediently killed the story.

On Aug. 5, the Greek government officially repudiated Mr. Nixon by declaring, quite unmistakably, that Greek bases could never be used against the Arabs. Pressed by Athens to patch up Greek-Arab relations, the White House on Aug. 7 backed away from Mr. Nixon's remarks. Deputy Press Secretary Gerald Warren indicated that the President "seems to say Greek bases would help all allies, not just Israel. That modification, intended to placate the Greeks, was ignored by the U.S. press."

Nearly three weeks later, Sen. Church arrived in Israel to find officials irritated over being the shuttlecock in three-cornered political badminton between Greeks, Americans and Arabs. On Aug. 24, he visited Maj. Gen. Aharon Yariv, director of Israeli military intelligence. On Aug. 26, he

visited Lt. Gen. David Liraz, chief of the Israeli general staff.

THE CONVERSATIONS were off the record. But in his September report to the Foreign Relations Committee, Church quoted "high military officials" as follows: "It was made clear that, contrary to a recent statement by President Nixon . . . the crucial factor for Israel is only the maintenance of a strong U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean. They do not consider U.S. bases in Greece as essential to their security."

U.S. policy-makers were unaware of Church's report. But Church informed Demetresopoulos of the Israeli military appraisal in an Oct. 30 letter. Fully appreciating its political importance, Demetresopoulos traveled to Europe last month to brief top Greek exile leaders.

With the Israeli contradiction, Mr. Nixon is running out of reasons for continuing to support the Greek dictatorship. As we reported earlier, the Navy selected Greece for Sixth Fleet home ports without investigating alternative possibilities. Now, the Israeli military has ruined the argument, absurd from the start, that the Sixth Fleet can come to Israel's rescue only if based in Greece.