



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR - CITY OF SAVANNAH

JOHN P. ROUSAKIS, MAYOR

August 18, 1972

Senator George McGovern
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

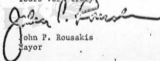
Dear Senator McGovern:

I was shocked and appalled, not only with your position on aid to Greece, but also in the irresponsibility you displayed in presenting a major position on a foreign policy matter to an obscure Greek communist journalist.

As an American of Greek heritage, I resent and reject your position on Greece. You condemn Greece because of her military dictatorship and hypocritically state that you will support with military bases the military dictatorship of Thailand.

It is easy to criticize a military regime, but today Greece enjoys unparalleled economic growth and internal order and stands again with the United States as a key NATO ally. Greece has always been one of America's strongest allies, and yet a candidate for the President of the United States would demean that friendship with an unprecedented display of diplomatic ineptitude.

Yours very truly



John P. Rousakis
Mayor

JPR:mk

August 29, 1972

Dear Mayor Rousakis:

Thank you for your letter of August 18 regarding my position on ~~Greece~~.

I have always held that reasonable men can disagree without being disagreeable, and I hope we can proceed on that basis. I believe this is particularly important in discourse between elected officials.

I hope the following points will clarify my position to you:

First. While my letter to Mr. Demetriopoulos received considerable publicity, it was not a statement of a new policy. I have been outspoken in my opposition to the Greek dictatorship from the moment it came to power in 1967.

Second. I have never said I would support the military dictatorship in Thailand, and I would not do so. I have proposed to maintain airpower in Thailand for the sole purpose of pressuring the North Vietnamese, the Viet Cong, and the Pathet Lao into releasing American prisoners of war in the unlikely event they refuse to do so in return for our withdrawal from Indochina. These bases would not be used to affect the nature of the Thai government in any way.

Third. "Unparalleled economic growth and internal order" are terms that could be applied to Nazi Germany, the Soviet Union or the People's Republic of China. I don't think we can regard them as sufficient qualifications to merit U.S. military aid.

Fourth. The statement that Greece is "one of America's strongest allies" is open to serious question. As you know, our greatest need for Greek support relates to the defense of Israel. Not only three weeks ago the Greek Deputy Foreign Minister told

newsmen, "Greece's friendly relations with the Arab world rule out any direct or indirect participation in any acts aimed at our Arab friends."

I have the highest regard for the people and the traditions of Greece. This is why I feel we should not be party to imposing upon them a regime that maintains power by torture, refuses to permit a free press, and is unwilling to allow elections. I hope you will agree.

In any case, I will be happy to continue this discussion if you choose to do so.

My warmest regards to you and your fine city.

Sincerely,

George McGovern

Mayor John P. Rousakis
Office of the Mayor
Savannah, Georgia 31402

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November 28, 1972

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Mayor John P. Rousakis
Office of the Mayor
Savannah, Georgia 31402

Re: Elias Demetracopoulos

Dear Mayor Rousakis:

On Sunday, October 15, 1972 there was published in the National Herald, a New York City Greek-American daily newspaper, an exchange of correspondence between you and Senator George McGovern.

In the first paragraph of your letter, which was dated August 19, 1972, you state:

"I was shocked and appalled, not only with your position on aid to Greece, but also in the irresponsibility you displayed in presenting a major position on a foreign policy matter to an obscure Greek communist journalist."

It is obvious your reference to "an obscure Greek communist journalist" was intended to identify my client, Elias Demetracopoulos, who was the addressee of the McGovern letter about which you were commenting.

Mr. Demetracopoulos is neither an "obscure" nor a "communist" Greek journalist. When a similar accusation was made about him in a column by James J. Kilpatrick published in late July of this year, Mr. Kilpatrick, upon being informed of the facts, was fair-minded and ethical enough as a responsible journalist to publish a complete retraction of his earlier column. In the retraction Kilpatrick stated that his description of Demetracopoulos as a "minor" journalist "was unfair and I apologize for it." He noted that Demetracopoulos had been described by the conservative weekly, "Human Events" as "the foremost political editor in Greece" and elsewhere as "the distinguished political editor in exile." While disagreeing with Demetracopoulos' political views as to the Greek junta Kilpatrick conceded that Demetracopoulos himself "is staunchly anti-Communist." Copies of Kilpatrick's original column regarding Demetracopoulos and his subsequent column of retraction are enclosed for your information.

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Mayor John P. Fousakis
November 28, 1972
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Based on the information in this letter and the Kilpatrick columns I am sure you will want to disavow any intention to defame Mr. Demetracopoulos and to apologize to him for your mistaken description of him in your letter of August 18, 1972.

I await your reply.

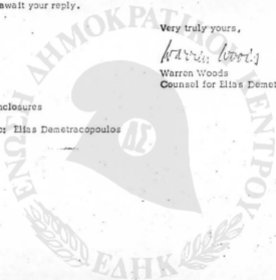
Very truly yours,



Warren Woods
Counsel for Elias Demetracopoulos

Enclosures

cc: Elias Demetracopoulos





OFFICE OF THE MAYOR - CITY OF SAVANNAH

JOHN P. ROUSAKIS, MAYOR

January 8, 1973

Mr. Warren Woods
Wilson, Woods & Villalon
Suite 1032 Pennsylvania Building
Pennsylvania Avenue & 13th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20004

Dear Mr. Woods:

Please excuse my delay in responding to your letter but the holiday season was more active than usual down at City Hall.

In my letter to George McGovern, dated August 18, 1972, my reference to an "obscure Greek communist journalist" was based on a report that was given to me. I do not know Mr. Elias Demetracopoulos nor have I ever mentioned his name in any of my correspondence.

In your letter to me dated November 28, 1972, you pointed out that Mr. Demetracopoulos is neither an "obscure" nor a "communist" Greek journalist. You further stated that when a similar accusation was made about him in a column by James J. Kilpatrick, published in late July of 1972, Mr. Kilpatrick, upon being informed of the facts was fair-minded and ethical enough as a responsible journalist to publish a complete retraction of his earlier column. In the later column Kilpatrick stated that his description of Mr. Demetracopoulos as a "minor" journalist "was unfair and I apologize for it." In this same column Mr. Kilpatrick conceded that Demetracopoulos himself "is staunchly anti-communist."

Based on this latter article by Mr. Kilpatrick I also will concur with Mr. Kilpatrick's actions, explanation and description of Mr. Elias Demetracopoulos.

Very truly yours,

John P. Rousakis
Mayor

JPR:mk

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Nakis vice chairman of Democrats for Nixon



SAM NAKIS

WASHINGTON -- Sam Nakis, who recently stepped down as supreme president of Ahepa, largest fraternal

organization of Americans of Greek descent, has been named vice chairman of the Democrats for Nixon.

In announcing the appointment, John B. Connally, former secretary of the treasury, cited Nakis' background. Nakis in accepting the appointment emphasized that he was a registered Democrat and intended to remain one.

"However, I cannot support the Democratic presidential nominee who appears to be leading the party too far to the left," Nakis said. "Also the Democrats have seen fit to include in their platform a withdrawal of aid to Greece but have said nothing of totalitarian governments we are supporting economically and militarily."

A native of Lowell and now of St. Louis, Nakis is active in the automotive market in many areas and is a director of NIEMA.

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NIXON, VAPOR CLAYTON in Virginia and Sam Houston, national vice chairman of Democrats for Nixon, was expressed in photo from White House alongside Nixons, Naisides and John D. Connally at dinner honoring the President and Mrs. Nixon in Texas recently hosted by the Connallys. From left are Mrs. Connally, Mrs. Nixon, Naisis, recently retired supreme president of Ahepa; Mrs. Naisis,

President Nixon and the former treasury secretary and Tex governor, Connally. Naisis is owner of Key Products Inc. and chairman of the advisory council, Automotive Warehouse Distributors Association, and director, Motor-Equipment Manufacturers Association and Automotive Sales Council.