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THE

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ATHENIAN

Greece's English Language Monthly



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Athens Stock Exchange
Flying Hellenic Skies
The Dilessi Murders
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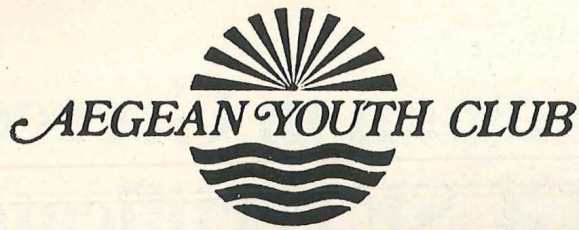
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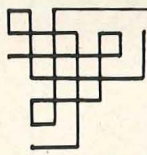
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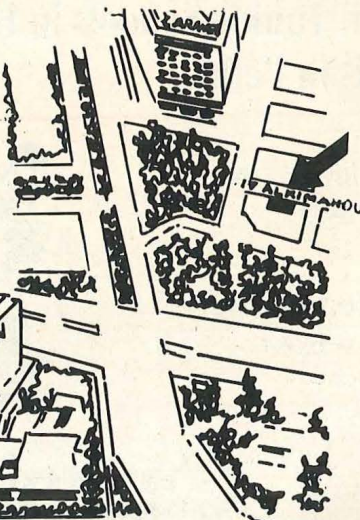
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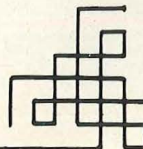
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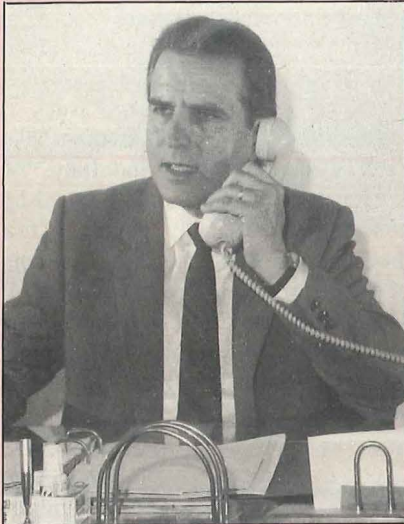
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FEATURES

18 Thessaloniki's Kouvelas: tuned in to tomorrow

The northern 'capital's' conservative and sometimes controversial mayor is taking a stand on reforms and modernization which has earned him a combination of respect and ire. Stelios Vassilakopoulos takes a look at the up-to-date politician

20 The changing Athens Stock Exchange

The Athens Stock Exchange, never one of the world's major markets, is undertaking a process of modernization and expansion. Haris Livas checks out the trading floor and reports on changes in the offing



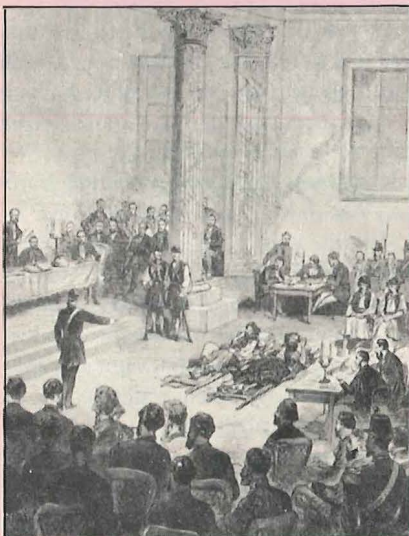
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22 From Icarus on: flying Hellenic skies

The desire of man to fly thrust an ancient Greek and his son into a legendary fiasco, but the shortsightedness of Daedalus and Icarus is, fortunately, a thing of the past. Robert Bartholomew takes a somewhat wry look at the history of Greek aviation

26 The Dilessi murders

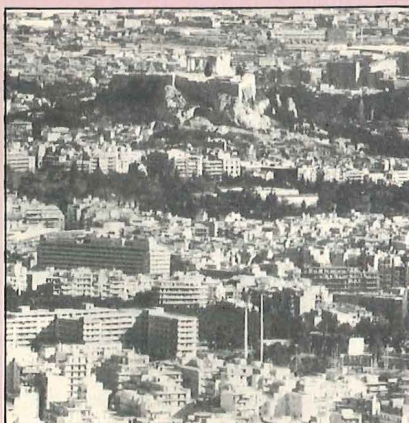
In the last century, those who ventured beyond the outskirts of Athens had to consider the risks of encountering the brutality of brigands; one such party made some fatal mistakes. J.M. Thursby recounts a horrifying ordeal which sent shock waves from Greece to England



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28 With all her faults

Athens has been called 'unlivable' by many a transplanted foreigner, but those who can look beyond her traffic, pollution and other problems have come to appreciate her specialness. Lee Stokes reports.



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DEPARTMENTS

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Cover: collage by Walter Myers

Amnesty consensus

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you as a member of Amnesty International Group 396. My purpose is to make you aware of a situation in your country which has been of much interest in the world community. A citizen of your country, Michalis Maragakis, who is a conscientious objector to military service, has been on a hunger strike since February 22, 1988 to protest his detention as well as the incarceration of other conscientious objectors. He is reportedly growing quite weak.

Although he is 31 years old and subject to a shorter time in the military than younger inductees, Mr Maragakis will neither serve time nor work in prison to reduce his sentence there. He writes, "My only aim is just legislative recognition of a basic inviolable human right and the enactment of an alternative social service in accordance with the regulations of the European Parliament."

We join with the Council of Europe, the European Parliament, and the UN Commission on Human Rights in urging all member states to establish appropriate non-military alternatives to accommodate conscientious objectors in their countries. Amnesty International also calls for the immediate and unconditional release of Mr Maragakis as a step in resolving this dilemma.

Sincerely,
Kim Pelletier
Suquamish, WA, USA

Dear Editor,

Michalis Maragakis is a prisoner of Avlona because he believes he has a right to serve his country outside military service. He has been on a hunger strike since February 22, although, since he intends to end his fast on April 10, this action on his part may be over by the time you receive this letter.

As a religious nation, Greece should recognize Michalis' right to exercise his free will. He should be released immediately and allowed to perform the community service he has chosen. As a signatory of human rights documents, Greece must begin to recognize the right of conscientious objection to military service.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kate Bradley
Redmond, WA,

Dear Gentlepeople,

I am writing to you concerning the case of Michalis Maragakis. Mr Maragakis, whose situation is probably known to you, is a conscientious objector to military service in Greece. He has refused alternate military service. He is on a hunger strike in order to win the right to alternate nonmilitary social service to Greece. I gather he started his hunger strike on 22 February, 1988 and has lost considerable weight. I urge you to immediately publicize information concerning Mr Maragakis and to urge the authorities to mediate his immediate release. Also I would ask that you make known the fact that the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and the United Nations Commission on Human Rights urge all member states to establish appropriate systems of alternative civilian service running for a nonpunitive length of time entirely outside the military forces.

Sincerely,

Frank Dauer, Ph.D., Inc., P.S.
Psychologist Seattle, Washington

C.C

Senator Dan Evans
Senator Brock Adams
Congressman Mike Lowry
Editor, Seattle Times
Editor, Newsletter, St Spiridon Cathedral

Dear Editor,

In reading J.M. Thursby's excellent (as always) article on "Bank notes and independence", I was disappointed to see that the author did not take the opportunity to warn your readers about the 50 and 100 drachma notes (draculas, as the Americans like to call them) now in circulation. The 50 drachma notes are already widely a subject of violent verbal invocations, although they are legal currency for another two years. The 100 drachma note with "Dimokritos" on the front is no longer accepted at all, though this does not stop their still being passed.

One should avoid costs!

Sincerely [,
Don Sebastian

Dear Editor,

The Athenian Diary item, "Private or pirate" (March, 1988) has confused me. As a tourist doing my homework, I read that Thessaloniki was ceded to Greece by the Treaty of Bucharest in 1913. Yet the local DA is trying to prosecute the city's Mayor for exactly

what the Greek government is doing in Plaka, i.e. making satellite dish television available to TV owners. Somewhere in Plaka a phantom truck is slowly going the rounds, linking Plaka with France, Germany and Italy.

Supposedly free, the hooked-up households are gladly paying a few thousand drachmas for more freedom of choice (and to insure installation). If Thessaloniki is indeed in Greece, how can the Mayor be prosecuted for doing for his constituency what Athens is doing for a few?

Sincerely,
Ron Stiletto

P.S. This effort, so it is said, is to rid the area of unsightly aerials. Amen.

Dear Elizabeth Herring,

I am a graduate student finishing my Doctor I hope thesis, visiting your exciting homeland. Indeed I am sorry to read all these things that displease you, many of which really excite me, like the air in Athens which some smoggy occasions make me tear and dream loneliness of home.

I am writing of the Lautrec tub in your one message in the middle of No. 25 after the letter d, April 1988.

Where I come from they have not yet discovered the comfort of a 54-inch tub. Our tubs are far too short for our always the same 48-inch bodies but if they were good enough, they say, for our previous, they are good enough for us. You have the same traditions?

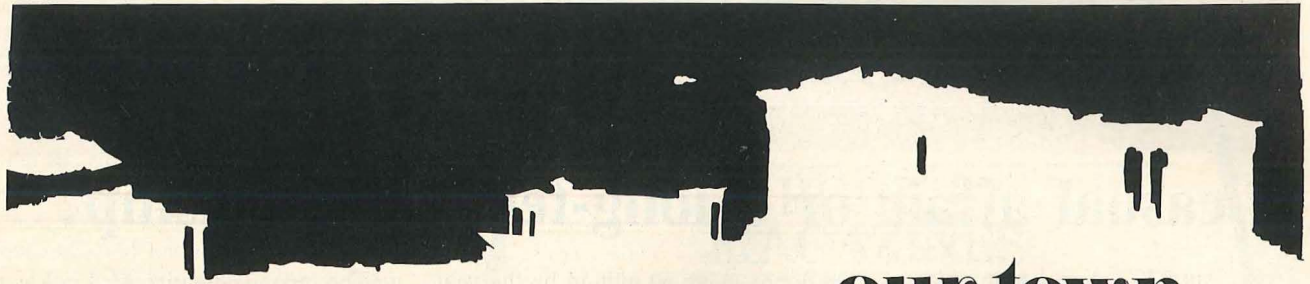
While you complain, dear you, Toulouse I suppose and we visitors luxuriate as we had never dreamed of back home. Furthermore your wonderful invention that sprinkles hot and cold never knowing which water over our bodies...such pleasure! So cleverly designed that we can hold it high with one hand, clutch the cleaning soap in our second and with our third, wash all over with that squidgy little sponge.

I understand your frustration and only feel sorrow for you that you are not made littler...but I wish to write before I leave and tell you how grateful I am that the tub and the shower with the snaky tube were so happily designed just for us.

We visit your lovely land only too seldom but I, for my parts, shall pass the good washing-news on to my fellow graduates on my soon return.

Show me your tub and I will show you a happy tripheq.

Trat Smyrt
Human Studies Graduate
Xonstor, Mars



our town

Escape into Greek reality

As in many other Western countries the national holiday here, celebrated on March 25, has been reduced mostly to a pageant for children during which boys and girls, dressed up as *tsoliades* and *Amalias*, recite in poetry the bold feats of Markos Botsaris in monotone squeaks to the delight of their parents. Adults otherwise tend to ignore the purpose of the day: they don't much bother about attending the show of military muscle flexing its arms on the avenues of Athens, preferring a drive out to the country to tuck away stacks of codfish cakes and mountains of garlic purée.

Fortunately, a blistering attack on this abject lack of national spirit became the focal point of President Sartzetakis' national address this year.

In attempting to give even a wan reflection of this sulphurous harangue, an apology must be offered to the reader in trying to render Mr Sartzetakis' verbal dexterities to so limp, thin and watery a medium of communication as English.

Here at least are some blind stabs at the highlights.

"In today's times the dangers which encircle us carry not racial, but chiefly other names. In the great society of all nations and in the narrower but still substantial European Community, the danger of our total extinction appears as threatening and literally imminent if we are to abandon ourselves passively and in utter carelessness to the unthinking enjoyment of consumer products. Because, once again, worse than at any other period in our national existence – since destiny and our own errors have resulted in a dangerous demographic diminishment – the comparison of figures shows that we are at our weakest numerically: a meagre and insignificant morsel."

"As not to be transformed into a pitiful flock of unwilling, bleating servants always and continually at the

beck-and-call of others who are multitudinous and powerful, the only path to salvation there remains for us is illuminated by our history over the millennia, especially in the 1821 War of Independence and other struggles of liberation, since these alone reveal to us the secret of our national survival. Thus this can only be secured by a continuously deeper pursuit of national self-knowledge and of living effectively by the values through which Hellenism has managed to survive through difficult times."

"Therefore, this survival of ours presupposes the rejection of everything that undermines our martial spirit, of any decay of our traditional values, of every form of corruption such as this deplorable mimicry of foreign models and oblivious, complaisant amusements."

After recovering from the thunderous splendor of this diatribe against the unholy foreign influences on Hellas, one is still left with the President's apocalyptic vision. It isn't just that Athens at best has been turned into a string of *fastfoodadika* run by local *cowboythes* wearing 'I Love to Make Love' T-shirts and Adidas jogging shoes. It is the lurid nightmare that would make even St John the Divine blanch of a post-1992 Greece whose hotels are all run by Belgians, its restaurants managed by French with Portuguese waiters serving Spanish olives, whose policemen are Irish, whose football teams are made up exclusively of English and Italians, and whose government by that time will consist of ministers hired as ombudsmen from Denmark. And with Turkish entry not far off, it takes little imagination to foresee guards in fezzes and Ottoman slippers becoming the custodians of all our ancient and Byzantine sites, serving instant Turkish coffee at canteens at the foot of the Acropolis to hordes of Greeks on holiday from jobs

in Dusseldorf, Charleroi and Cardiff.

The President has made it amply clear how to avoid this fate-worse-than-death. That is, instead of spending half the night grossly overeating at tavernas, smashing piles of plates at discos and screaming ourselves hoarse at basketball games, we should all be retiring to bed early in the evening and getting down to the serious business of repopulating this country with latter-day Bouboulinas and Karaiskakises.

Years ago Mr Karamanlis drew an apt simile when pressing the country towards the EC, remarking that it was like throwing a baby into the sea: it would have to learn to swim in order to survive. But his successor to the presidential throne sees it another way: namely, that the baby has been squawling, gurgling, flailing, gulping down and throwing up sea water these last eight years and that now it should be fished out of the waves, swaddled in fluffy piles of blue-and-white striped chauvinism and rocked to sleep in the ample arms of Mother Hellenism.

But where is this beautiful vision of Greece to be realized? Mr Sartzetakis has said that we are not threatened by the EC alone. No, we are encircled by dangers. The First World is corrupt, but the Second world is mostly Slavic (at least nearby) and the Third World isn't even Orthodox. There was a song composed during the junta called "We'll go into the jungle with Tarzan" which has always remained popular. But that was some 15 years ago and environmentalists warn us today that even the jungle is fast disappearing.

Perhaps, with luck, it isn't necessary to go anywhere. It will take a great deal more than the EC to change Greece much. And as for Greek reality, it only lies in one's head, doesn't it? So long as there's sand on the shores of the Aegean there will always be a place to take one's head and bury it. □

THE ATHENIAN DIARY

by Sloane Elliott and Karen B. Stedman

A casual affair or a long-term relationship?

On April 19 a dinner followed by a discussion organized by the Centre for Political Research and Information (KPEE) took place at the Hotel Grande Bretagne. The title of the discussion was "In search of a new relationship between Turkey and Greece". A panel of well-known Greek scholars, journalists and diplomats took part, monitored by Independent MP John Pasmazoglou, economist and the true architect of the negotiations which brought Greece into the Common Market.

Although it was generally admitted during the discussion that the meeting between the prime ministers of the two countries at Davos at the end of January had been approached somewhat more casually on Greece's part than on Turkey's, its repercussions have been such that it seemed the dynamics and scope of Greek-Turkish relations could now be fruitfully discussed in a long-term context. The question then to be taken up by the panel was how to put this relationship on a permanent basis.

It was fortunate that among the listeners at this discussion was Selim Egeli, chief advisor to Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. He was invited to say a few words at the close of the discussion and he gladly accepted. The points he made were brief but clear.

In the first place, he said, the frictions of the past over the Aegean were not created by the people of the two countries but by politicians. This statement earned him a warm round of applause. He went on to say that the knowledge Greeks and Turks had of each other was minimal and that little or no information is made easily available. There is, for instance, no center of Turkish studies in Greece.

Secondly, Mr Egeli said, the Turkish prime minister was pursuing the most emphatic good-neighbor policy in 50 years and that his vigorous leadership of a younger, Western-looking generation made him the most significant figure in Turkish politics since Ataturk.

"A large majority of Turks," said Mr Egeli, "even 95 percent, already feel themselves European."

Finally, Mr Egeli reminded his audience that "Turkey's rapidly growing population, now over 50 million, will

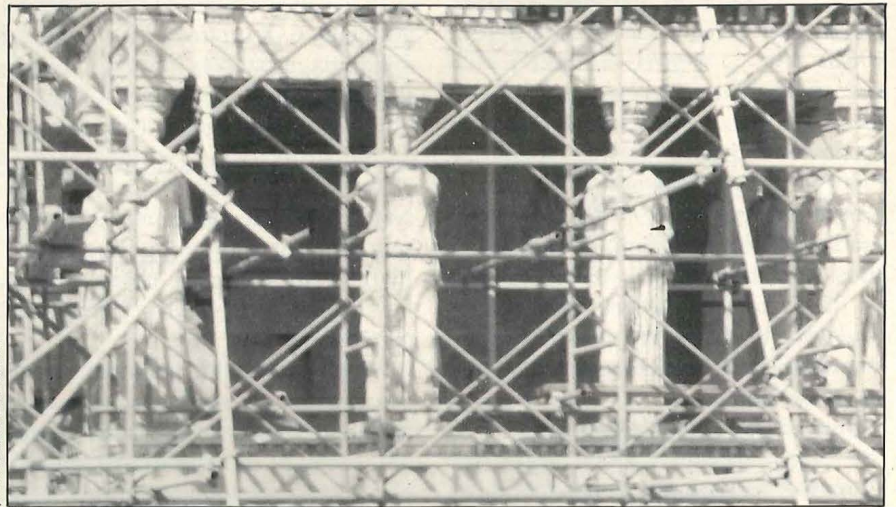
be approaching 60 million by the year 2000."

At this point the 'spirit of Davos' descended over the gathering, and when someone called out, "Bless them all!", another warm round of applause followed.

This human potential, Mr Egeli went on, was creating such an attractive market for European producers that most likely the EC for the greater part was even more enthusiastic than Turkey about having the latter join it.

Touching on the sore spot of Cyp-

The Erechtheion: before and after



Restoration work in progress

Visitors to the Acropolis this season should take special notice of the Erechtheion, which has undergone eight years of recently completed restoration.

The Erechtheion, dedicated to the worship of the goddess Athena and the chthonic divinities of Attica, was built on the Acropolis between 421 and 406 BC. The plan of the rectangular prostyle temple, with porches projecting from two sides, is the only one of its kind in classical architecture. The ceiling of the South Porch is supported by six statues, replicas of the famous Caryatids. Four of the originals are now on view in a special glass enclosure in the Acropolis museum.



The completed restoration

THE ATHENIAN

rus, Mr Ozal's closest adviser admitted that the subject was so complex and of such long standing that he was not well enough informed – in fact that he was not even old enough – to have a full and fair understanding of the problem. He added, pointedly, that he supposed most of his listeners were in the same position.

In reply to Mr Egeli, John Pemaszoglou said that he and all those present agreed that 'hate' was a word to be cast aside from the future relationship between the two countries. He also said that Greece, like all of the other 11 nations comprising the EC, had the right to veto applications of new members, but he was sure that Greece would never exercise this right lightly.

Mr Pemaszoglou went on to congratulate Mr Egeli on the population growth of his country but added that it was the aggregate per capita wealth of a market that attracted European producers and in this case there was little difference between Turkey and Greece.

He concluded by reviewing some of the rules by which all EC countries are governed, dwelling especially on those which regard full democratic process and the defense of civil rights.

Antenna dilemma

The static continues over free TV.

Two satellite aerials relaying foreign television programs from various European countries were dismantled and confiscated by police March 16. The aerials, installed in different parts of the municipality of Ptolemais, were said to have been operating illegally.

Local citizens immediately held a protest meeting, while Mayor Sotiris Kouvelas of Thessaloniki – already on the chopping block for 'illegal' broadcasting – in an announcement described the action as "indicative of the government's autocratic behavior in all its glory."

New Democracy accused the government of "using brutal violence against a right that has been legalized by a court decision." This presumably refers to Kouvelas' acquittal after his attempts to "strengthen democracy through satellite television..."

In reply, the press office of the Ministry to the Prime Minister's Office said ND had "lost all sense of proportion" and ignored the views of its

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conservative followers by applauding "the activities of two or three fanatic mayors who are giving a bad name to the country with their piratical behavior towards foreign organizations."

Hunger strike

Michalis Maragakis, an imprisoned conscientious objector in Greece, has been on a hunger strike in Avlon Military Prison since February 22. He

is protesting his continued incarceration due to his refusal to do military service and is calling for the establishment of alternative civilian service for COs.

Maragakis' strike comes four days after his failure to win acquittal at his appeals trial February 18. He said he would not eat again until April 10, the Greek Orthodox Church's Easter Sunday, and reportedly dropped about 50 pounds since beginning his fast.

At press time, details of the outcome of Maragakis' ordeal were not available.

There are currently about 380 imprisoned COs in Greek prisons. Sentences are normally for four years, but can be reduced if inmates are willing to work while in jail, one day's work equalling two days off their sentences. There is an option of "unarmed" milit-

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ary service, but it is still militarily connected and thus in fundamental conflict with the beliefs of the imprisoned COs, including Maragakis. This "unarmed" service is also twice as long as the regular military service.

Maragakis is unique in that he is the only imprisoned CO who is not a member of the Jehovah's Witness church. He is 30 years of age, born in 1957 near Thessaloniki. Before his arrest, he taught wood sculpture to illiterate people in a center for popular education on the island of Lefkas.

George Mylonas

Archaeologist George Mylonas died in Athens on April 15 at the age of 90. The high point of his long and distinguished career occurred between 1952 and 1954 when he and John Papadimitriou excavated the now famous Grave Circle B at Mycenae. Not only was it one of this century's most spectacular prehistoric discoveries in Greece, but it also clarified and completed Schliemann's rather scanty and confused evidence of Grave Circle A excavated in the 1870s. At this time Mylonas was professor at the University of Athens and Washington University, St Louis, Missouri. Later, Mylonas excavated at Eleusis and his work there and at Mycenae were published by Princeton University Press.

Mylonas was General Secretary of the Archaeological Society whose present parlous financial condition clouded his final days. Mylonas did much for the establishment of a museum at Mycenae still under construction. Last month his remains were interred on the side of a hill looking across to the famous Acropolis where he dug so many years.

Canned program

A model program for the recycling of aluminum cans will be implemented within the next two months at various secondary schools in Greece.

The project, sponsored by the Ministry of the Environment, Town Planning and Public Works, and the first to be implemented in the Attica region, is aimed at saving bauxite – the principle source of aluminum – produced in Greece, as well as reducing imports of further raw materials produced in other countries, the processing of which requires the consumption of great quantities of energy.



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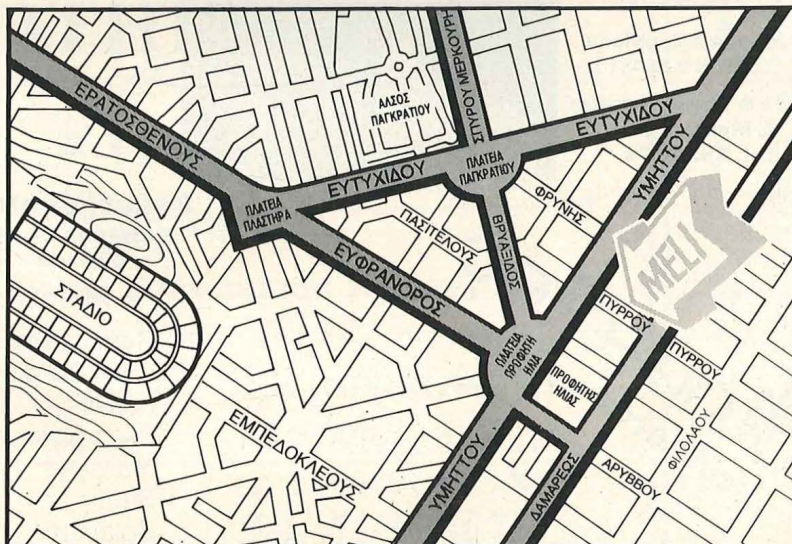
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In Brief

■ Among the recipients of this year's **Alexander S. Onassis Awards** are Robert MacNamara, former president of the World Bank, winner of the Athinai Prize for contributions to humanity; and Wang Jifu, Chinese Minister of Culture, recipient of the Olympia Prize for the protection of the environment. The Aristotle Prize will be shared by the American Foundation for AIDS Research and the French organization AIDES. The recipients of the prize will be actress Elizabeth Taylor and Professor Daniel Deferre.

■ A memorial gathering **45 years after the Holocaust** commemorating the 67,000 Greek Jews who died during the Nazi occupation took place at the War Museum on April 15. Psalms were sung by Frini, and actress Antigone Valakou read passages from *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Among those present were Jacob Arar, Rabbi of Athens; the president of the Jewish community of Athens, Daniel Alchanatis; the mayors of Athens and Thessaloniki; Ioanna Tsatsou, widow of the late president; scholar and academician Constantine Trypanis.

■ Seven ancient marble statues missing from the estate of collector **Alexander Iolas** who died last June have recently been recovered by the police from a warehouse of a movers' establishment in Athens. Over 80 artworks remain unaccounted for according to the inventory made at the time of Iolas' death. The entire collection was left to the state.

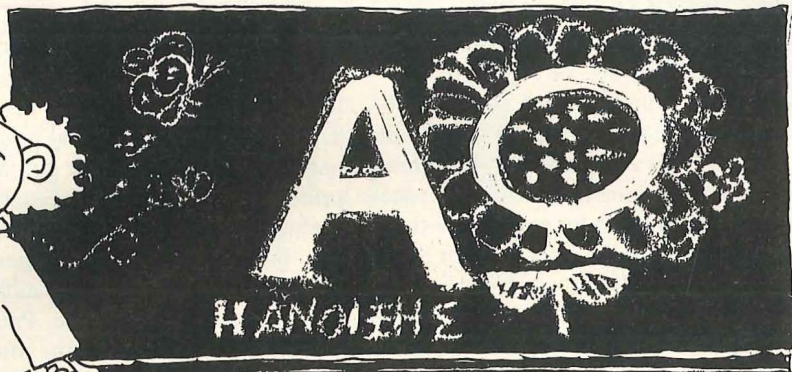
■ Andreas Kaloyeras replaced **Nikon Arkoudeas** as chief of the Greek Police last month. Arkoudeas had become especially controversial since he led a MAT riot squad in a foray last December which destroyed a radio transmitting station set up by Mayor Sotiris Kouvelas in Thessaloniki.

■ West German Foreign Minister and Vice Chancellor **Hans-Dietrich Genscher** received an honorary doctorate from the Panteios School of Political Science. The Prime Minister and leading opposition leaders, political figures of the government and the opposition attended.

■ According to a provision of the **new legal code** for the organization of courts, all judges, public prosecutors and lawyers will be required to wear gowns. □

GREEK IDIOMS...

ΓΕΙΑ!



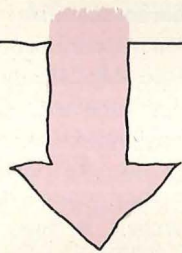
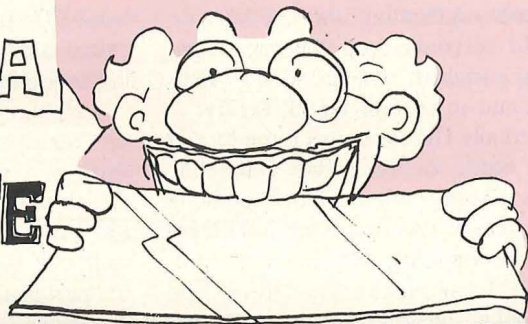
GISSAVELA 88 ©

Lesson 7.

ΔΑΓΚΩΣΑΤΗΝ ΛΑΜΑΡΙΝΑ

[ðangosa tin lamarina]

I BIT THE IRONPLATE



ΠΟΝΑΕΙ ΤΟ ΔΟΝΤΙ

[ponai to donti]
the tooth is aching

THE TOOTH IS ACHING



I BIT THE IRONPLATE = THE TOOTH IS ACHING :

meaning:

I'M IN LOVE

A battle between two competing views

The 25th of March, Greece's national holiday, usually passes unnoticed amidst the barrage of standard platitudes and truisms which most politicians utter year after year, boring us all to death. This year, however, was quite different, for something of significance was finally uttered by none other than the President of the Republic, Mr Sartzetakis. Naturally, it was delivered in his usual rambling and stiff style. Needless to say, one can very well disagree with the substance of Mr Sartzetakis' utterances while nonetheless admitting that the President, wittingly or not, touched upon the core of the dilemma Greece is facing as it prepares itself for the challenges of European integration.

With his message, Mr Sartzetakis succeeded in reminding us that if we are to delineate the essence of today's political debate and draw the line between two major political and social currents confronting one another, we should certainly drop the capitalism-versus-socialism schema which seems irrelevant in current Greek reality.

Actually Greece seems to be locked in a battle between two competing views and their corresponding approaches. The first is ultra-nationalistic, xenophobic, parochial and introverted. Its aim is to shape Greece into an insular, inward-looking, third-world country. The second is much more international in its orientation, ready to open Greece to new ideas, new methods and the corresponding tough competition which will ensue as it becomes increasingly part of Western Europe. The first approach is reactionary (in the truest sense of the term) since it loathes the change which will become inevitable through competition when borders open to goods, services and people. The second approach represents the only hope that Greece has in following the path of modernity with a competitive liberal economy and an open democratic society.

But all this brings us back to Mr Sartzetakis' 25th of March message. The President of the Republic, reflecting the fears and inhibitions of what could be termed the 'xenophobic approach', warned Greeks that "within...the European Community the danger of our annihilation is real and imminent." Greeks, he continued, could be transformed into "a sorry herd of servants with no will of their own,

continuously serving those who represent the greatest numbers and the powerful". But how, he asked, is one to fend off this assault by the many and the strong, eager to steal away our national heritage let alone our national pride and our cherished freedoms? By "refusing to reject our Greek identity," by "fighting back against alienation, like that which leads us into mimicking foreign models," said the President. Xenophobia, parochialism, outdated ultra-nationalism were encapsulated in a few phrases.

Naturally such views have been echoed by other political personalities and political parties. The KKE, a so-called progressive party (but in reality the most deeply conservative of all Greek parties) has been harping on the same xenophobic tune, merely couching it in an obsolete Marxist-Leninist jargon. PASOK, particularly from 1974 to 1977, but also to a lesser extent until 1981, also strummed similar xenophobic chords.

Lately, even the KKE has accepted the 'reality' of Greece's EC membership, and has ceased to clamor for Greek withdrawal from the community. As for Mr Papandreou, he has suddenly become the super-champion of 'Europeanism' as an ideal, a staunch supporter of Greek EC membership, and is trying hard to outbid even New Democracy in his 'European commitment'. But changes in policies, primarily of PASOK and secondarily of the KKE, do not necessarily mean that deep-rooted phobias which have become entrenched in Greek society under the impact of historical, political and social factors, can be obliterated in one night. It is coincidence that Mr Sartzetakis' xenophobic shouts of alarm were endorsed by Greece's largest circulation daily, the leftist *Ethnos* which wondered anxiously, "what are we doing" to avert "annihilation" within the EC?

In his greatest single contribution to the country, Karamanlis forced EC membership on the Greeks. After he accomplished this it seems increasingly difficult to imagine Greece seeking 'national identity' and its 'national heritage' outside the competitive European environment. Cries of pain and terror will, of course, be heard in all those quarters which would look wist-

fully at a Greek society failing to insulate itself from anything alien and particularly from anything Western.

Greece, being now part of a competitive framework, will have to swim or drown; and swim it will. Its ideas will, naturally enough, be more and more influenced by those dominant in Europe. One of these, already developing among major parties, is rallying against the disastrous statist tendencies of the past. The monstrous public sector, which grew under both conservatives and socialists, will eventually have to be trimmed down, as is the case all over Western Europe. A competitive economy means more, not less, free markets. At some time or another the axe will have to fall on state bureaucracy. State monopoly of higher education and television cannot survive indefinitely. Neither will the state's near monopoly on health care. Competition will open the economy and institutions to more democracy.

Of course all this may take time. Vested interests and particularly all those special interests holding monopoly power of all sorts in Greek society will oppose change. In their ears xenophobic utterances will sound like soothing melodies. For example, it is no coincidence that most student trade unionists support a state monopoly of higher education and abhor the thought of any EC cooperation with Greek universities. Though most Greek politicians look towards the EC countries for their models, they remain deeply provincial and archaic in their own mentality. Greek political life still remains anchored in divisions of the sixties, with its two outdated political leaders engaging in stale and timeworn mudslinging.

If anything, Mr Sartzetakis' remarks at least bring to the surface a genuine political debate that should be settled. Unfortunately, there has ceased to be any debate of substance in the Papandreou-Mitsotakis exchanges. Although both PASOK and ND seem to reject xenophobia, parochialism and provincialism, and to opt for a 'European Greece', it is unlikely that, in their current form they will succeed in the near future. At present xenophobes could lose the game, without Europeanists being able to win it. We still have a long way to go...

F. Eleftheriou

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Cement – a fragile success story

Greece's cement industry can be seen as a fascinating microcosm of both the country's competitive potential and the difficulties facing its developed industries

Cement is the one Greek heavy industry which has left a real mark on the world market. For several years the country has been one of the major exporters of the commodity. In 1985, it closed the gap between the two traditional leading exporters, Japan and Spain, and in terms of overseas sales of the finished product (not counting cement clinker), became the world's number one exporter. During the last two years, Greece has confirmed its position as the undisputed leader of the overall cement export market. According to the Paris-based association of cement manufacturers, Cembureau, in 1987 Greece exported seven million tons – 28 percent more than its nearest rival.

A rare international success for Greek manufacturing? Well, yes. But the story of Greece's success in this field is, too, the story of the domestic problems faced by manufacturers and the strife which has hurt everyone in the international cement trade.

The country's two major cement companies, Aget-Heracles and Titan, are both 77 years old this year and are thus unusual examples of firms which have ridden out Greece's economic ups and downs over most of the century, and yet can point today to an increased standing and greater capacity. It was during the 1960s and 70s that billions of drachmas were poured into the industry to modernize plants and increase output; to cope with the post-war boom in demand for private building and public construction.

Unfortunately, cash shortages and pessimism about the economic future have reduced the boom to a whisper since 1979, and the production capacity of the Greek cement industry is now more than double domestic demand. A slight recovery in building activity here in 1986 appears to have been a temporary ray of hope as property prices rose in the immediate wake of the announcement of the government's economic stabilization program.

The biggest complaint of manufacturers, however, is that the government

sets the price of cement – a key national commodity – at levels which bear no relation to production costs. This improved slightly in 1987, with a larger percentage increase in the domestic selling price approved, against a reduction in inflation. The problem, nevertheless, is still acute and Greek cement prices are reckoned to have actually fallen, in dollar terms, by about 20 percent in recent years.



Faltering demand and rigid price controls have forced firms to pay increasing attention to exports in their battle for survival. Strong links with the construction-mad Arab world in the late 70s and early 80s raised Greece to the top of the exporting tree, but as the war between Iran and Iraq has dragged on, upsetting investment not only in those countries but in some neighboring states, and demand in the Middle East generally has shrunk to a fraction of its former volume, cement manufacturers worldwide have engaged in a fierce fight to pry open new markets.

The cement trade has shifted geographically, from industrialized countries supplying Third World nations to developing countries supplying First World nations whose own plants can no longer manufacture the commodity as cheaply as their foreign competitors. Greece can claim considerable success in replacing traditional Arab customers with sales to Europe and the United States in the face of considerable competition, particularly from the East

bloc, which has been selling cement at 'dumping' prices. Both Heracles, now Europe's single largest cement exporter, and Titan have cracked the American market in the last two years – each supplied the US with one million tons of cement in 1987.

But manufacturers in the UK and Italy, where Greek cement has begun to be sold, have lobbied behind the scenes and managed to secure EC action against the industry in Greece. The European Commission is currently investigating complaints that Greece provided unfair financial assistance to state-owned Heracles by converting the debts of the firm into publicly-owned share capital in 1986. In a second attack, the EC is also discussing a ban on Greek cement sales within the Community on the grounds that some of the cement includes flying ash recovered from the Ptolemais lignite-burning power station. This is suddenly judged to be an inferior raw material.

Greek manufacturers are confident these injunctions will be warded off, but it all seems a little harsh that an example of efficient and successful Greek industry should risk being penalized while, for example, British firms should enjoy such access to the Greek pharmaceuticals market simply because domestic firms don't have the clout to create equivalent problems for them.

Meanwhile, the Greek majors are doing all they can to improve their production and the efficiency of their distribution. Both Heracles and Titan have built up considerable road haulage and shipping fleets to ensure the cheapest and most stable transport of cement around Greece and to make themselves as competitive as possible for contracts abroad. Owning ships enables them to throw in an extra, cheap service for some foreign buyers. For example, Titan won an unusual contract to supply the rainy Mauritius islands for two years by virtue of having a specialized, totally-enclosed cement-carrying vessel for transport, though this customer has now been lured over by Indonesia.

Companies have also continued to invest in 'state-of-the-art' machinery at their plants, though the emphasis has changed to purchases with particular markets in mind to enable the cost to be returned in years rather than decades, as has been the case with some major investments. In-house training and the general consciousness of the industry in subjects ranging from production efficiency to employee relations and hygiene and safety has established it as the yardstick by which other Greek manufacturing has come to be judged. Just one example: Titan Cement Company has now planted some 300,000 trees under the supervision of agriculturists in order to restore and actually improve the environment at factory sites and depleted quarries.

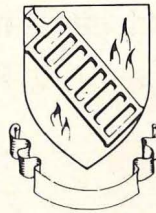
But the question is: even assuming Greece, and Heracles in particular, escapes the noose the EC is currently trying to place around its neck, can tireless efforts to export Greek cement replace a healthy domestic market? The answer would seem to be a clear no. Already the country's earnings from cement exports have been axed to just half of the \$274 million earned in 1981, even though the volume of cement sold abroad is up.

Furthermore, the main emerging export markets all present great difficulties for Greece. The spread of Greek sales in Europe is likely to be met with considerable animosity in the foreseeable future. Apart from the UK and Italy, shipments to Spain, which is considered by Greek executives to be the second market, have already been blocked by the muscle of Spanish manufacturers. In the US it is difficult to see how Heracles and Titan can find the capital to do what other foreign firms have been doing – buy out an American subsidiary or compete with Mexico, which is fast emerging as a major manufacturer, right in the US's backyard. The other nation which, from once being the world's leading exporter, is now set to become one of its top importers – Japan – is under siege from cement firms in Korea and Taiwan, which are closer and, if anything, even more determined than those in Greece.

The key to the health of the Greek cement industry therefore, is a recovery in Greece's own economy, with a revival of confidence in building property. Developments such as the government's major transport infrastructure projects and plans to host the 1996 Olympics would also provide a welcome injection of extra demand into the domestic scene.

Nigel Lowry

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Thessaloniki's Kouvelas: tuned in to tomorrow

**Satellite television, waste treatment, a new metro,
and an almost-Dutch foray into the Gulf?**
**The northern city's mayor wants to make some major changes,
on air, land and sea**

by **Stelios Vassilakopoulos**

On February 28 at 1 pm, residents of Thessaloniki began fiddling with their UHF dials trying to find the three new satellite channels, including Super Channel from Britain. For the next few days the new channels were the talk of the town.

"Do you get the Italian channel?" (RAI) a shopkeeper asked his customers. "Not very well; reception is very poor in our area."

"It's your antenna," the shopkeeper countered. "Face it towards Seih Sou."

The British and American ex-patriate communities were, of course, glued to Super Channel, afraid to 'touch that dial' lest they lose reception once and for all. Twelve days later, similar conversations were repeated when another pair of channels, a French (TV5) and SKY channel were introduced onto the UHF band with the promise of a Soviet channel's being included in the near future. CNN came on the air as of March 18. Thus Thessalonikans are now receiving satellite television broadcasts in Italian, French, German and English, with Russian to be added shortly.

The reception of satellite television in Thessaloniki, unique in Greece, is the culmination of a precedent-setting legal battle fought and won, for the moment, by Mayor Sotiris Kouvelas.

Kouvelas was born in the Peleponnese, but reared in Thessaloniki. He holds university degrees in both law and civil engineering, and since 1960 has worked independently on various engineering projects.

The Mayor's interest in politics began with his involvement in various organizations and associations, beginning with the Independent Engineers' Association of Thessaloniki. A member of its executive council from 1964 to 1966, he later became Secretary General, holding this office from 1966 to 1968. Seven years later, he became President of the Civil Engineers' Association of Thessaloniki and, in 1976, Secretary General of the Technical Chamber of Central Macedonia. From 1976 to 1981 he acted as President of the Chamber.

With 17 years of high level involvement in these professional organizations under his belt, Kouvelas had

firmly established himself in New Democracy (ND) and, in 1981, his political career proper began with his election to Parliament as ND's representative for Thessaloniki.

A year later, he made his first bid for the mayorship but was defeated by Mr Manavis. His second time around, Kouvelas beat the incumbent as part of ND's sweep of Greece's major cities in the municipal elections of 1986, and he has presided as Mayor of Thessaloniki since January 1, 1987.

Early on in his second year as Mayor, Kouvelas faced, along with the Secretary General of the Municipality of Thessaloniki, Fotis Manousis, charges of having "instigated and facilitated" a one-hour broadcast of satellite programs in January of this year.

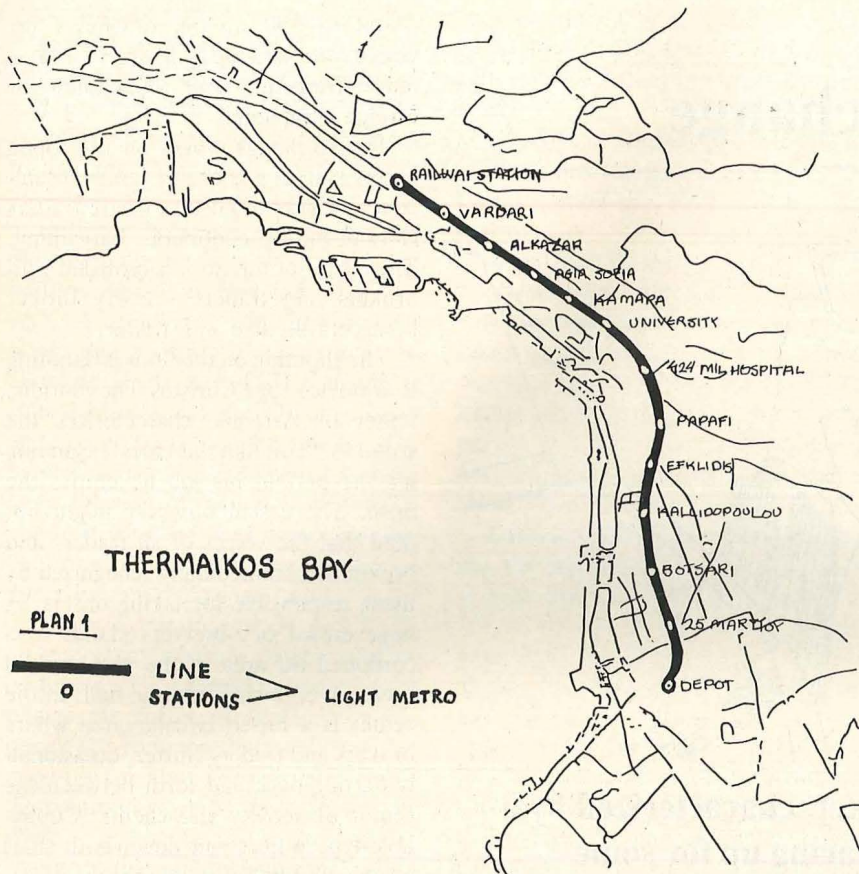
The court case drew large crowds of Kouvelas' supporters, and the local press described the trial's opening day as being something like a rock concert. The small police presence was helpless in controlling the huge crowd, but Kouvelas undertook responsibility for its management, cajoling and haranguing the rowdy group into order.

It was clearly a celebrity trial, drawing to Thessaloniki such ND notables as Athens' Mayor Miltiades Evert and ND party leader Constantine Mitsotakis. Mitsotakis created a furor by releasing a statement to the press saying that "Mr Kouvelas' broadcast of satellite programs was completely within the limits of the law and the PASOK government should accept the fact that it can no longer maintain its monopoly on television which it uses as a propaganda tool."

Mr Kostopoulos, PASOK's General Secretary, in response to Mitsotakis' press release declared that the ND leader was once again interfering in the due process of law and that his statements were typical of the irresponsibility he customarily exhibits in his anti-government campaign. Kouvelas was acquitted on February 12, and 15 days later satellite television arrived in Thessaloniki.



Thessaloniki's Mayor, Sotiris Kouvelas



treatment plant near the Axios River. This, however, is only the initial step towards an effective solution to the problem, since it involves only the purification of human waste and not industrial waste which will still continue to flow into the sea untreated.

Concerning the traffic problem, the Mayor proposes two rather ambitious schemes. The first involves a 150 metre extension of the sea-front into the sea to a length of two kilometres (from the White Tower to the port). This construction, according to Kouvelas, will provide a two-way, exit-lane underground expressway, as well as parking for 6000 cars.

The second scheme proposes a metro system which will cross, in an east-west direction, the central body of Thessaloniki from the train station in the west to the old tram terminal in the east. At present this 7.5 kilometre journey by the existing public transport system, taking at least an hour, is a definite handicap to shoppers and businesspeople alike.

Be it in the areas of pollution, traffic or satellite TV, Kouvelas has set his sights firmly on his city's future.

The issue of satellite television, and of 'free' television in general, is controversial here in Greece. For those Greeks who have spent time abroad, television not controlled by government is nothing new; neither is local television. Many Greeks view the introduction of both in Greece as something positive, providing it is properly regulated within acceptable limits and, most important, that it does not become a vehicle for any political party. A non-partisan and objective depiction of local and national events is sorely needed in Greece.

While satellite television is undoubtedly a welcome boon to Thessaloniki, other more basic problems such as traffic and water pollution remain unsolved as yet. Anyone who has walked along Thessaloniki's seafront while the inland breeze is blowing can attest to the validity of Kouvelas' position. The dumping of untreated waste into the sea is nothing less than shameful for a major European city like Thessaloniki, and it is high time the city's residents stopped defecating literally in their own backyard.

Though the introduction of satellite television is a feather in the Mayor's political cap and has done much to brighten his political future, time will tell whether his other ideas will come to fruition and assure him an expanded role in Greek politics. □

The matter, however, has not been settled to everyone's satisfaction, since Kouvelas' opponents are currently trying to overturn the court's decision.

In an exclusive interview conducted in the Mayor's spacious office in Thessaloniki's City Hall (better known as Caravan Serrai), the Mayor, asked about his attempts at breaking up the government's TV monopoly, responded rather philosophically, "Everyone is just doing his job. Those who are against our efforts are trying to have the court's decision overturned and we, of course, are trying to maintain it."

Kouvelas added that, beyond the legality of the situation, one must take into consideration as well the will of the citizens of Thessaloniki who have welcomed and watched the satellite programs, broadcast from February 28 on, with great interest.

He also warned that "...whoever acts against this expressed desire of the majority will suffer great political damage." When asked about the future of local television, the Mayor said that it was his aim to establish a local television station in Thessaloniki, something current legislation forbids.

Five days after the interview, the government announced its intention to introduce a television station in Thessaloniki which will serve the city proper and northern Greece, much the way

ET does now. This was not what Kouvelas had in mind.

The issue of satellite television aside, the Mayor not only seems determined to shake up the status quo in Thessaloniki, but indeed to attempt some radical changes to solve the city's major problems. Kouvelas refers to a study conducted two years ago which singled out traffic flow and parking as being the two major problems facing Thessaloniki, problems much more acute today. He adds that this study, conducted simultaneously with studies in Athens and Piraeus, indicated that transportation was more problematic in Thessaloniki than in the other two cities.

While residents of Thessaloniki consider traffic the most serious of their problems, Kouvelas holds the pollution of the Gulf of Thessaloniki represents an equally serious situation. Today all waste - industrial and human - is dumped untreated into the Gulf. Additionally, Kouvelas feels citizens have not fully understood the magnitude of the water supply problem. He states that last year there were indications that there will be a future lack of water in the city, becoming more acute in the next three or four years.

To combat water pollution, Kouvelas says that works are currently under construction which will carry waste to a

The changing Athens Stock Exchange



The 112 year old Greek market, characterized by a swirl of chaotic activity, is gearing up for some significant changes – not all of which are welcomed by its brokers

by Haris Livas

The Athens Stock Exchange, now enduring the same troubled times as other exchanges of the world, has a long history. Founded in 1876, the Exchange has always been located near the central offices of the National Bank and, indeed, its present quarters on Sophokleous Street, which have housed it since 1934, are right next door.

The Exchange's 112 years have been marked by turbulence though before Black Monday, October 19, 1987, it was enjoying "an enormous bull market," in the words of investment consultant Artémis Theodoridis; so much so that new companies moved onto the exchange, the latest being the National Housing Bank whose issue promptly sold out.

When the world markets dropped so disastrously last October, the Greek Stock Exchange closed, to reopen only the following Monday after nearly a week of inactivity. The decision to close was made for two reasons: first, the well-founded fear that shareholders might panic and sell out, and, second, that the enormous backlog of unsettled transactions – unimaginable reams of paper work – would be impossible to process efficiently.

The Athens Stock Exchange en-

gages in floor trading for two hours every day, Monday through Friday, 10:00 am to 12 noon; every 20 minutes a different group of companies, based on industry type, is traded; for instance, banks and insurance companies, then textiles, etc. There are 32 member brokers and, unlike most exchanges, only individuals are permitted membership. This, though, is changing; the Ministry of National Economy's proposals for modernizing the Exchange include breaking up this 'club' and expanding membership to include corporations, societies anonymes (S.A.), companies and banks. Also slated to change is the method of governance. To date it has been the responsibility of the brokers themselves, but the new committee will include a representative of exchange governing employees plus representatives of institutions and investors.

Member brokers of the Exchange have been required to post a personal guarantee for all transactions, depositing capital in the neighborhood of 20 million drachmas to join. Now, however, the Association of Shareholders (of companies listed on the Exchange) has proposed some changes to the Ministry that the capital deposit be

raised to 150 million drachmas for Greek brokerage companies and a more stringent fee of 300 million for foreign companies.

The Exchange works on the 'open outcry system'; its center can be visualized as a kind of auction where traders call out bids in continuous bargaining. The center of the floor is crowded with brokers and traders – every broker being entitled to one trader.

The shouting on the floor is daunting to a novice, but Christos Theodoridis, father of Artémis, characterizes the scene as "a bit like the races", claiming it's the part of his job he enjoys the most. The casual observer might not note that the voices of all traders and brokers are immediately recognized by those responsible for taking orders. A huge crowd of observers stands in a cordoned off area of the vast vaulted room, overflowing into the hall. In the center is a raised circular area where brokers and traders cluster, occasionally darting back and forth between the center of activity and clients. Cubby-hole-type offices run down both sides of the building and the brokers frequently retire there to telephone clients who aren't on the spot. Transactions are entered by two men who transmit the information for posting on the manually operated board.

The few women present are messengers in a seemingly chaotic male-dominated world.

The Athens Stock Exchange operates on physical delivery of shares; that is, the owner actually has the shares in his physical possession. They are called bearer-shares when no name appears on the certificate and registered shares when it does – a convenient system for clients who desire anonymity. At the end of the trading day, the brokers retire to the clearing office to deliver any shares sold. This procedure is also scheduled to change; a central depository will be created for certificates of ownership.

The Greek market has suffered two major blows in the past year: first the resignation of National Economy Minister Costas Simitis, then the 10 percent tax imposed on companies with a turnover of 50 million drachmas, retroactive to 1986. Though later rescinded, the damage this measure caused had already been done, the market fell 25 percent in two days, and an expeditious recovery is not expected – especially since the international market, which affects the Greek market, appears slow to recover from last October's debacle. Theodoridis predicts, "The Dow-Jones will not see 2500

again very soon."

Greece experienced a short-lived bull market in 1972, which retreated and remained bearish from 1973 to August 1986; despite a fair amount of fluctuation, the overall trend did not look positive.

In 1986, however, increased company earnings brought about a gradual upturn. Then, in November of that year, in compliance with EEC regulations, the government was forced to allow residents of all EEC member states to invest in the Greek market and freely export their capital gains, dividends and interest. The result was a large infusion of capital from foreign investors who had been waiting for the opportunity to take advantage of attractive price/earnings ratios.

The price/earnings ratio – or P/E – is an important measure of the relative costliness of a company's stock, as it relates the firm's profitability to the price of its common shares. (It is determined by dividing the market price of the common stock by the earnings per share.) So, shares on the Athens Exchange at that time, which were selling at low earnings multiples, or a P/E of 3 or 4, were especially attractive, as P/Es on the New York and Tokyo exchanges were at levels of 17 and 70, respective-

ly. Interestingly, ratios on the NYSE have now dropped to 13.5, whereas those on the Athens market have doubled.

British and German institutional investors in particular were drawn to the Greek market and Americans too now invest.

When the Exchange opened up to everyone there was a rush for shares. The market, which had previously taken in between 30 and 40 million drachmas a day, reached a level of 2 billion drachmas a day during this period of "high fever" in late September, though in December it receded to about 50 million.

Certain indices are worth examining. On December 31, 1986, the general price index was 1914 (compared to 100 in 1964!). By the middle of last year, June 30, 1987, it was 5574. So, during the eight-month stretch from mid-year to the 'crash', there were opportunities for profit – although it should be remembered that the market had been sluggish for 13 years.

The Law 89 companies active on the Exchange enjoy specific advantages. The tax paid on dividends is lower by 5 percent for listed companies and the same is true for that on retained earnings – 39 percent for listed companies

and 44 percent for others. The most significant reason that the market is not more developed, despite such incentives, is that most Greek companies are family-owned. If they were listed on the Exchange, they would have to hold annual meetings of shareholders at which embarrassing questions might be asked!

Broker commissions are low by international standards. For registered shares, if the value of the transaction is up to one million drachmas, the commission is 1 percent and the charge for transfer of ownership 0.3 percent. For transactions of 1 to 3 million drachmas, the commission is 0.75 percent and the transfer charge the same. Above 3 million, the commission is 0.5 percent; transfer charge the same. Commission figures are the same for non-registered shares and bonds.

Brokers, though, are not happy about the Ministry's changes because their oligopoly is about to become a thing of the past. But, as the volume traded on the Exchange increases, so will their profits; there will be long term benefits for the most competitive.

Finally, the new plans call for the creation of another Exchange – in Thessaloniki – although not in the near future. □

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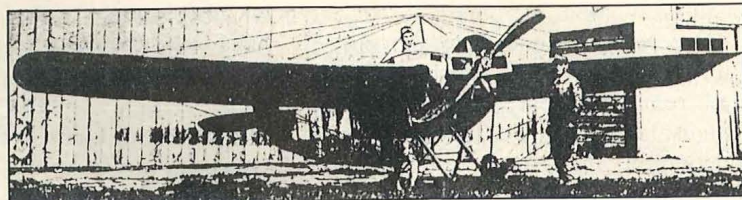


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From Icarus on: flying Hellenic skies

by Robert Bartholomew



Icarus: the beginning

To the image maker, anything *new* makes great copy. So the image of a modern aircraft fleet gracing the Hellenic skies can only make the public relations staff of Olympic Airways smile...and the advertising department chew their pencils while waiting for word from the top.

Indeed, bright new birds may soon be flying over the sparkling islands of the Aegean. These new turboprops will be connecting more islands to more regional airports and, if the directors of Olympic Aviation have their way, to regional airports in Italy, Yugoslavia and other surrounding countries including Turkey (Papandreou and Ozal willing).

That's the image. Now for the facts.

According to Olympic Aviation Director, Athanassios Rigos, the master plan was to buy ten to 11 new 50/70-seater planes over a period of three years. A committee was formed in December 1985 to evaluate the appropriate aircraft. A second committee came into being in September 1986 to review the findings of the first; it completed its work that December and, having considered carrying capacity, operating economy and available finance, made its proposal.

Preparation of a revised master plan is now under way, to be submitted, within the second quarter of 1988, to the Ministry of Finance.

The planes under consideration are: British Aerospace ATP 70-seater; French AeroSpaciale ATR 50-seater; Dutch Focker 50, 50-seater; and Canadian DeHaviland DASH 8-300, 54-seater. If these planes do arrive on Greek soil they should improve the operation of internal small plane flights.

But *will* flights be more frequent? *Will* additional islands and regions be interconnected? *Will* passengers be better served?

"Yes," says Mr Nikolaos Skoulas, Undersecretary in Charge of Tourism, "but Greece is a country that is not doing exceptionally well – to put it mildly – in its domestic transport. This is due...one, to the fact that Greece is broken up by mountains and islands...and two, maybe to the present structure of our air services. However, we have been successful in attracting island-hopping tourists by

using Dornier short take-off and landing planes; we need much greater capacity which these new planes will bring. As for the running of the air service, I don't care who does it or how they do it; I just want service for the tourists."

"However, I have my own private opinion about that...this is well-known. I think that a separation of the domestic from the international services is desirable. I'm not a lawyer, not a doctor, not even a politician...I'm a business manager, and I think that a separate domestic service run by a business manager would be able to offer much better service to the tourists that I'm interested in bringing to our beautiful country."

"Yes," agrees Mr Haralambos, Governor of the Civil Aviation Authority, "but even with existing aircraft the domestic service is very good and we are always trying to improve this high standard. We are ready to meet the challenge of 1992."

Director Rigos concurs: "Even today we have the best service record for a small-aircraft fleet. Unfortunately we, as Olympic Aviation, have not the right to schedule or operate flights of our aircraft. This is done by our stepmother company, Olympic Airways. They not only operate external routes but also domestic routes. I do not believe we can get maximum efficiency on our domestic flights until Olympic Aviation is given the authority to fly these routes and take direct control of their planning and operation."

This is the situation today.

And yesterday? The first tentative jump into the azure Hellenic sky was taken in 1912 by Emanuel Argyropoulos; unless, of course, one accepts as fact the fabled aerial blunder of Daedalus and Icarus.

In 1500 BC (give or take a few mythical years) Icarus made a brave, albeit foolish, attempt to corner the air-transport market. He was basically a one-passenger carrier but, had he spent more time improving his heat resistance and less time fighting with his father (the senior member of the party) he might have gone on to provide the first Greek air service. His heart was in his work, but his dream was just a little ahead of

current technology.

His unfortunate demise put back the development of heavier-than-air machinery thousands of years and not until early in the present century was his original flapping wing design finally rejected. As for his choice of 'airplane glue', wax was struck from the supply list immediately after his sun-baked fiasco.

Pegasus? One horse-power – a definite no.

After Icarus, men returned to their *podia* (feet) and women to their burdens, three paces behind – a method of transport used to this day.

The more adventurous took to the Aegean Sea and its green and white island jewels which dot the sea between the shores of Europe to the north, the ancient civilizations to the east and the sand dunes of Africa, to the south. They were stepping stones for the Phoenicians; havens for the dispossessed; harbors for the adventurous.

Crete, one of the largest, dominated the sea routes under the Minoans. By 1100 BC their era had ended and the Mycenaeans on the mainland took the lead until they, in their turn were conquered and dispersed by unwelcome visitors from the north – the Dorians. Add to this the bubbling Egyptian dynasties and obstinate tribes of Israel and you had – movement.

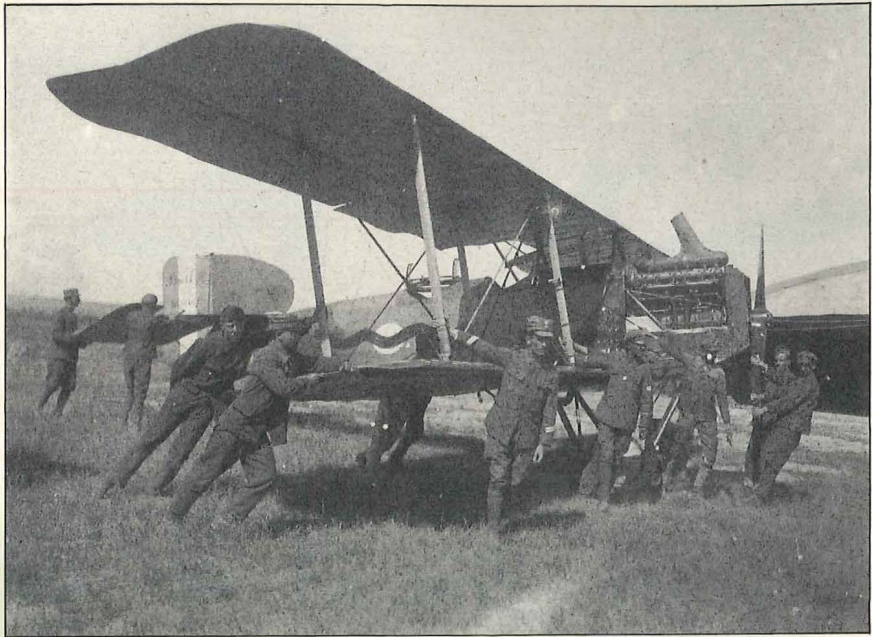
Tourism was strictly a royal prerogative back then; kings, queens and their courts travelled by boat, first class. If the winds were favorable, fine; otherwise, oar-power. Air travel was for the birds. Slaves and emigrants went steerage. Merchants travelled economy.

Judging by the detritus they left behind, their craft did not have a safety record to boast about; but the container industry of that period must be credited with making a good product. Although most of the sunken vessels have long since rotted, many a pot containing wine, oil or other luxury goods has remained intact – many still labeled with their original contents.

Those ancient pots, however, were the cargo of the past; the first private taxi planes of the 1920s began carrying packets of special mail freight. Their carrying capacity was limited though. Overweight passengers were discouraged from flying and, if not turned away, were charged excess baggage rates for their gluttony; not so very different from flying Europe's cartel airlines today – except that passengers now pay for their luggage; not their avoirdupois.

Now an overview of Greek civil aviation's progress:

1912: Argyropoulos. Athens to Athens. Duration over circular route, 13



1921: the Sarriyiannis plane under push-power



1932 Junkers: Junkers 52 in regular service 1938



The Sousters – a Greek-Turkish love story



Spectators viewing a takeoff, circa 1930

minutes. Passengers: one – Eleftherios Venizelos, a forward-looking prime minister no doubt surveying the site for a future airport (or aerodrome as it was then called).

1921: Ferenike Sarriyianni, the first Greek woman to fly in a Greek plane, bravely flew in a two-seater with open cockpit over Greek-occupied territory in Turkey. She was the wife of General Ptolemios Sarriyiannis, at 40 the youngest general in the Greek army. While no record of her comments after the flight exists, she insisted in the future on the relative warmth and comfort of an enclosed cabin.

1921–1930: No organized air transport system in Greece. Passengers were carried either by military or by enterprising private pilots.

1926: Department of Air Transport formed.

1930: Icarus was the first company to sign an agreement with the Greek government giving Icarus the right to set up and operate an air transport system in Greece.

1931: Greek Airways Company took over exclusive control of airways services in Greece. History repeats itself – Icarus: back to the drawing board again.

1932: Regular service Athens-Thessaloniki; later extended to Drama, then Ioannina and Crete. Airfleet: Junkers 624 12-seater aircraft, augmented after a few years by the Junkers 52 17-seater.

1935: A second company, TAE (Technical and Aviation Enterprises), was formed as a pilot training school; also as air-taxi operator to destinations not covered by Greek Airways Company.

1940: Both companies, under the aegis of the armed forces, contributed to the defense of the country against the fascists.

1946: TAE re-opened limited air services after the defeat of the Germans.

1947: Air transport licences were granted to three new companies: Aergo-Metafora Ellados, Hellenic Airlines and Dedalos.

1951: TAE, Hellenic Airlines and Aero-Metafor Ellados merged to become TAE (Greek National Airlines). Dedalos struck out.

1953: By Royal Decree, Department of Air Transport becomes Civil Aviation Authority.

1954: TAE nationalized.

1957: TAE purchased by Aristotle Onassis and renamed Olympic Airways.

1967: Hariclia Daminaki was the first woman air-traffic controller at Athens airport. She was in the habit during her night duty (why do women always catch the night shift?) of chatting with her counterpart at Izmir airport. Over a period of time, *conversazione* developed into friendship. In 1970 she arranged to meet her Turkish air-pal, Haluk Souster, while on holiday in Izmir. End result: love.

He left for Athens in 1971, became baptised 'Christos' and married Hariclia. They now live in Athens in the midst of their happy family which all goes to prove that a one-on-one relationship can make a mockery of 'patriotic' antagonism; and that air controllers shouldn't knock the night shift.

1971: Olympic Aviation formed as a subsidiary of Olympic Airways to operate light aircraft and helicopters for charter

services and air taxis.

1974: Olympic Airways grounded in December due to heavy financial losses. Onassis withdrew.

1975: Operations resumed in January and company taken over by the Greek government.

1977: First case of a stowaway on Olympic Airways: baby delivered en route from Santorini to Athens. Flight attendant and mother all well; baby John unticketed but, by special dispensation of pilot Nicholas Nomilos (announcing himself Godfather) safely delivered. John Danezis was christened by Olympic Airways in a ceremony demonstrating that airline pilots can be ships' captains, too.

This brings us full circle to modern new airplanes designed to fly competitively inside Greece and to regional airports in neighboring countries. It also brings us near to a point in time – 1992 – when the harsh winds of competition will start beating against the protective ramparts of the Greek air monopoly. Four years is not much time in which to transform bold predictions into commercial action.

In 1992 the European Economic Community will become a Common Market.

In 1992 Greece will be bound by its treaty with the EEC to abide by its trading rules.

In 1992 the cozy monopoly enjoyed by the air service will be cracked.

Such region-to-region routes as the Corfu-Brindisi route (now flown by an Italian air company because Olympic doesn't have the planes) will increase tenfold. Greece's location – that geographical honey pot – and tourist attractions will draw to this country small plane carriers from all over the Common Market. Greece therefore is in danger of losing its monopoly to foreign air services; better perhaps to give private sector Greeks an opportunity to compete.

Regarding the proposed new planes, financing and economics are naturally powerful considerations. The government is looking at a small-plane fleet that will cost about 13.5 billion drachmas (\$100,000,000) but, fortunately, a special European fund will pick up at least 50 percent of the tab. Plans have been drawn; views have been aired; talk has been talked. The real question now is not whether to buy new planes – that's a given; but how to use them.

Some in the government and at Olympic Airways want to keep the status quo, arguing one large air corporation is safe – neither management nor unions are disturbed. Most of the time.

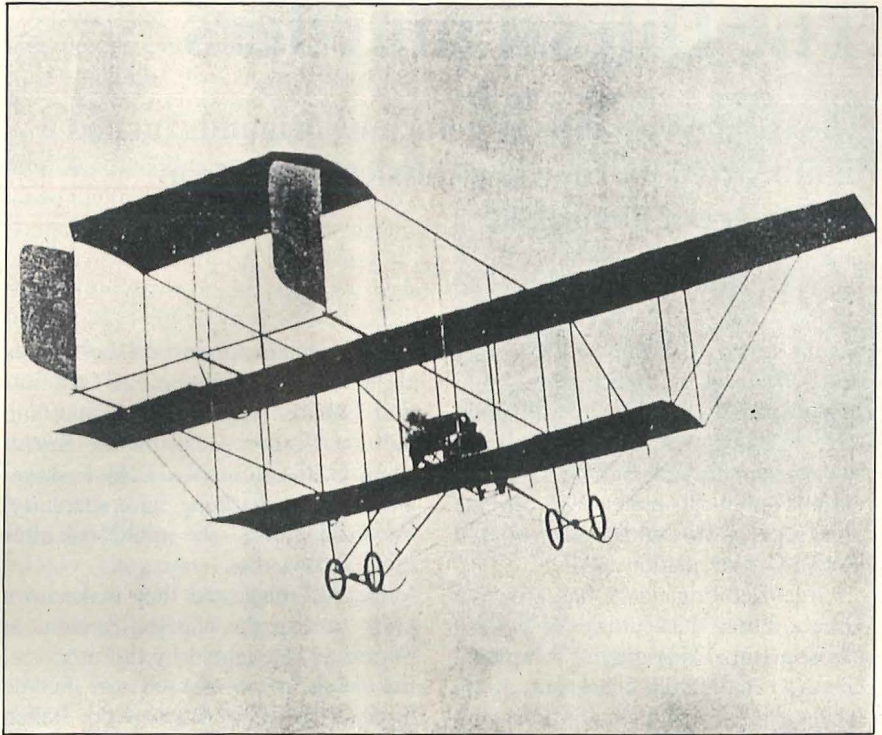
Some would like to see a separation of domestic from international flights,

saying the necessary regulations have already been agreed upon and are just sitting on some government desk waiting for a final signature; that Olympic Aviation, as the small-plane service, would be a leaner, faster decision-making company, able to better deal with foreign competition than its overweight stepmother, Olympic Airways.

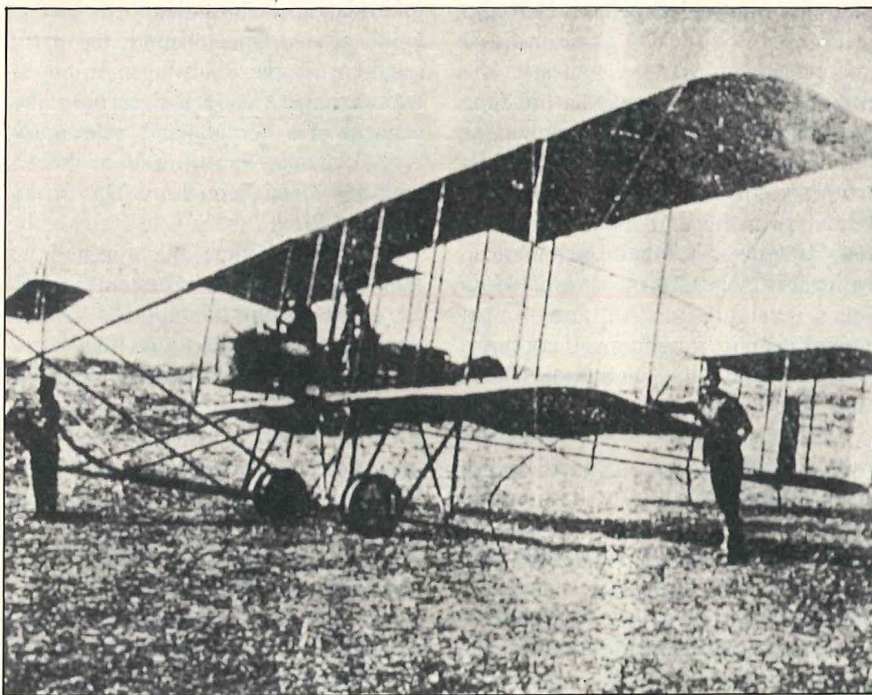
These 'separatists' also rightly ask which other European country's national airline is running its small plane domes-



Present plane: Short SC3-30;



One of the earliest flying machines



1912 biplane: the wings of Venizelos

tic routes: Germany? NO; France? NO; England? NO.

Most pundits who have sat on the small plane purchase committees agree on two 'facts': that the domestic air market is growing; that the planes are getting old. The consensus of opinion is that the present fleet is not sufficient to meet the challenge of a burgeoning market and future competition. The disagreement involves the decision of whether to continue as is or allow Olympic Aviation its own wings.

During the summer months, on the domestic service, passengers often – very often – suffer delays of up to an hour

from what seems to be an almost deliberate disregard for punctuality. Nevertheless, aircraft are maintained at a high standard and the pilots themselves have a first class reputation for safety. A larger fleet may facilitate easier-to-maintain schedules. Despite all the difficulties, the small planes made almost 25,000 flights and carried nearly half a million passengers in 1987; this with a fleet of six SD3-30 (30 passengers) and seven Dornier DO228-201 (19 passengers).

In one sphere however, Greece is severely lacking: unlike other countries, it has no effective Emergency Medical



Dornier DO228-201:

Service (EMS). The government, in an effort to remedy this, is forming a technical committee to decide on a suitable twin engine helicopter. The present intention is to purchase two seven to nine-seater craft to create, among other services, an EMS. This will be a great boon to those stricken by catastrophe in any part of Greece, however inaccessible.

There are problems facing civil aviation within Greece, now and down the road, and all concerned, from the prime minister on down, are working to solve them, though their priorities may be political. Unfortunately, a monopoly usually catches the public twice... first in unsatisfactory and expensive service; second, in taxes to defray its losses.

Margaret Thatcher is not the only prime minister who realizes that successful commercial enterprises are those led by successful business managers. An increasing number of world leaders, some out of desperation, others out of sheer savvy, are handing over the machinery of commerce to those who know how to give the public the service it pays for. Four years to 1992. □

The Dilessi murders

The ruthless assaults of notorious brigands turned a lighthearted journey to a classical site into a nightmare of bloodshed

by J.M. Thursby

In the spring of 1870, near the hamlet of Dilessi on the Attica plain, three Englishmen and an Italian diplomat were brutally murdered by brigands. The event shocked Europe, and the ensuing political upheavals, adverse press reports and popular anger soured British-Greek relations.

Organized brigandage had grown in Greece during the centuries of Turkish occupation. Mountain 'klephts', cloaked in a freedom-fighter aura, were on occasion as ruthless towards their own countrymen as they were to the Turks. Sustained by pillage, extortion and threats, they would suddenly swoop down to plunder and terrify a lowland village, and landowners paid "protection" money.

Despite their often violent behavior they embodied a certain rough nobility, had their own songs (*ta kephtika*), dances and a fierce unfringible code of 'honor'. In deference to the 'evil eye', women were rarely abducted and kidnapped foreigners never killed. Young bloods on their grand tour considered it something of a lark to be held in a wild mountain glen for some days while relatives accumulated the ransom required to free them. This cavalier attitude vanished abruptly with the Dilessi murders.

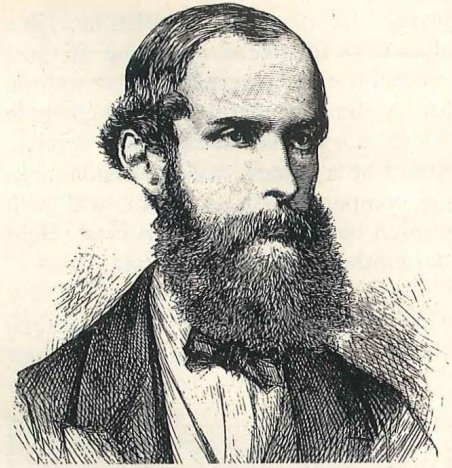
On April 7 that year, three British aristocrats, Lord and Lady Muncaster of the Irish peerage and their 23-year-old friend, Frederick Vyner of Newby

Hall, arrived in Athens and took rooms at the Hotel D'Angleterre on Constitution Square. The following morning they paid a social call on the British Minister, the Honorable E.M. Erskine, and met his charming third secretary, Edward Herbert, who would look after them during their stay.

Herbert suggested they make up a party to visit the classical tumulus at Marathon. Delighted by the proposal, the Muncasters agreed to include Count Alberto de Boyl of the Italian Legation and Mr and Mrs Lloyd, English residents in Athens, along with their five-year-old daughter, Barbara.

Despite recent government announcements to the contrary, the trip was still risky. Bandits at this time moved freely in the wild mountainous terrain of north Attica. Yet when harrassed, they could find safety by fleeing over the border into the Ottoman Empire. So, when an American resident in Athens wrote shortly before the Dilessi affair, "An army might scour the entire kingdom and not find a single brigand," this might indeed have been the truth.

Certainly Herbert took the precaution of notifying the police but neglected, as procedure required, to inform the Minister of the Interior. Had he done so, he would have learned that the Arvanitakis brothers, Christos and Takos, along with their unsavory band, had recently crossed the frontier, de-



Edward Herbert, the British Minister's Third Secretary, who suggested the outing to Marathon; brutally murdered in the rescue attempt

scended into Attica and had been seen in the area of Marathon.

Unaware of the impending danger, the visitors spent the evening dining and, according to Thomas Cook, the famous travel agent who was present, joking about being kidnapped. In this lighthearted frame of mind, the party set off early the following morning in two carriages. They had secured the services of a "dragoman", Alexander Anemoyiannis, known to all as 'Popi', and had been joined by De Boyl's servant, Roella.

Making good time, they reached the famous classical site by noon, picnicked, examined the tumulus and strolled down to sea and back. As they were preparing to leave, a small detachment of soldiers, led by a guide, Spyros Kambitzes, appeared. He warned Popi that the Arvanitakis band was in the area and asked him to drive slowly so that his men could keep up and protect them if necessary. For reasons best known to himself, Popi neglected to convey this vital warning to his charges and the carriage set off at a good pace.

As they were rounding a densely wooded bend in the track near the village of Pikermi, accompanied by four mounted gendarmes who had joined them, they heard the shout "*ston dopo!*" (halt!). What happened then was described by the correspondent of the *London Illustrated News*: "...a volley (of shots) was suddenly fired into them killing one gendarme and fatally wounding another, the road was immediately filled with brigands who forced the occupants out of their carriages using much violence, seized Lady Muncaster and tearing off her watch and locket and menacing the lives of all."

After several hours of stumbling up the rough slopes of Mount Pendeli,



Prisoners for trial were ranged on the lower floor in front of the judges: all were wounded; the two crippled lay on litters



Twenty-three-year-old Frederick Vyner of Newby Hall, shot in the back and killed by brigands; now buried at Newby Hall

they eventually stopped, were identified and stripped of all their valuables. True to their klephtic code, the brothers put Lady Muncaster and Mrs Lloyd, still holding her small terrified daughter in her arms, on the two captured horses and released them along with both gendarmes and the Italian, Roella. It was nearly midnight when the party reached Athens, but the ladies went straight to British Minister Erskine with a ransom note for 30,000 English gold sovereigns, and told them their horrifying tale.

By this time the Greek government had been informed of the event and there was a flurry of diplomatic activity. A new ransom note had been received for 50,000 gold pounds, along with a threat to shoot the five captives if they were attacked. Erskine obtained assurances that no soldiers would pursue the klephts and wrote to the brothers promising them immunity. Two days later Lord Muncaster arrived in Athens driving a horse and cart. He had been selected by the five kidnaped men as the most suitable person to deliver yet another note for 25,000 gold pounds, or an amnesty.

Then Greek Prime Minister Zaimis realized there would be no end to these demands and that the situation was getting out of hand. He feared the Arvanitakises would take their hostages over the border into Thessaly, which was then part of Turkey, and understandably felt the government could no longer give in to brigands. The demand for amnesty was immediately rejected; the new constitution expressly forbade the pardoning of klephts without a trial. Consequently, troops were ordered to ring the area of Oropos and block the band from moving the captives further north.

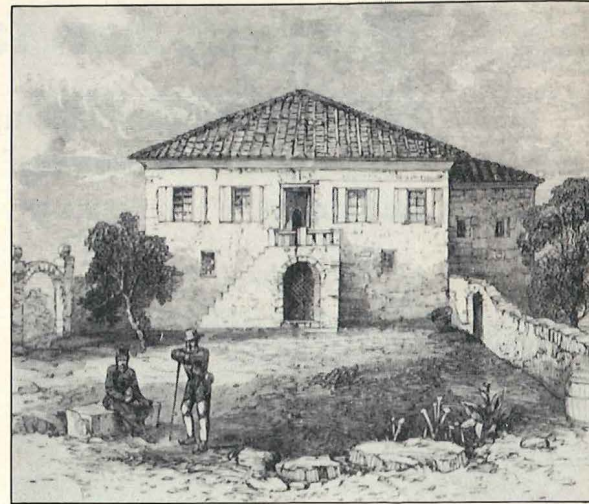
Takos and Christos, clutching Erskine's note of immunity as though it were a talisman, had moved freely into the village of Oropos, occupying the three best houses there, where negotiations were continuing; they had even taken the five men to church on Easter Sunday. Lt Colonel Basil Theogenis had been selected by the Greek state to meet with the brothers and had been joined by Francis Noel, an English landowner, consul for Euboea and a personal friend of Herbert.

Despite desperate efforts on their part to persuade the brigands to settle for the ransom money only and leave for Malta on board a British ship already standing by, the brothers remained adamant. They wanted both the money *and* the amnesty, being assured that British pressure would force the Greek government to comply with all their demands. British foreign policy had changed however; William Gladstone, Prime Minister and a staunch philhellene, had no intention of interfering in the internal affairs of Greece.

Takos knew he had stayed long enough in Oropos and so moved his prisoners out of the village up into the hills behind. When he was informed that soldiers were advancing towards him he was incredulous, feeling he had been "betrayed". In a fury he hurried his captives down the mountain but, as they rushed headlong through a gully, troops on the cliff above opened fire on those lagging behind, shooting two men. Almost immediately, Herbert and Lloyd were brutally murdered – left to bleed to death while De Boyl and young Vyner literally ran for their lives through Dilissi and out the other side of the hamlet before they were shot in the back and killed.

News of the murders shocked the inhabitants of Athens. The newspaper *Aion* wrote: "We will not undertake to describe the grief which the terrible and sinister event...has caused the entire kingdom." The Greeks had more to suffer as the whole nation was vilified, lampooned and generally held responsible by the European press for the four deaths. In the heat of the moment *The Times* wrote that Greece was "...a country of half-Slav, half-Greek semi-savages; a disgrace to civilization."

Draped in Union Jacks, the bodies of Herbert and Lloyd were conveyed to Athens and carried to the small Protestant church of St Paul. Present at the funeral were King George and Queen Olga, and the entire diplomatic corps. The service was read by Dr Hill, an American pastor. Two days later a



The house of Skourtaniotis, Oropos, where the Englishmen were confined

similar service was repeated for Frederick Vyner. Lloyd was buried in the Protestant cemetery in Athens, while the bodies of Herbert and Vyner were embalmed and conveyed by ship to England.

As the boat carrying the bodies neared Southampton all the ships lowered their flags; in the town, shops were closed and all church bells tolled as the cortege passed through. A great memorial service was held for the dead in Westminster Abbey where the Dean, the Reverend Stanley, expressed the national grief: "They have been mourned for as England alone can mourn for her children." Vyner was buried in the park at Newby where his mother raised in his memory a small church which is one of the most admired examples of Gothic revival in England. A glass case containing mementos of the young man can still be seen today in the billiard room of Newby Hall.

In an effort to expiate British and Italian fury and their own feeling of shame, the Greek government brought to trial the few brigands they had managed to capture, although Takos and Christos had escaped. The proceedings, according to historian Romilly Jenkins, were a complete farce ending in the beheading of the prisoners. Edward Noel was unjustly accused of encouraging the brigands to hold out for amnesty and therefore branded as the architect of the whole disaster.

Zaimis and his government fell. In the cruel clarity of hindsight, Erskine himself was judged to have mishandled the affair and his diplomatic career was left in a shambles. For some months, Greece was the eye of a political maelstrom until the Franco-Prussian War broke out; the Dilissi murders were then relegated to history. □

With all her faults...

Despite the problems facing modern Athens, foreign residents find that the city's attributes outweigh her difficulties

by Lee Stokes



Athens – the sparkling marble city of antiquity may have turned into yet another badly planned, traffic-congested, polluted urban Mediterranean sprawl. With all her faults, though, there are many Americans here who wouldn't swap Athens for any other city in the world.

"Athenians still take a great deal of pride in their city, which makes it a wonderful place to live in," says Robert Bridges, Secretary of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. "There are no slums here, the crime rate is far lower than in American and other European cities, and everybody still looks out for each other. The pollution situation has improved with the recent measures banning traffic from downtown areas. Even with all the concrete apartment blocks, there are still many beautiful open spaces in the city, such as the archaeological sites, to wander around in."

When visitors think about ancient Athens, Bridges says, they imagine the ancient glories of Pericles and Plato – public buildings such as the Parthenon, the *Agora*, the ancient marketplace excavated by the American School, where the great Greek philosophers such as Socrates and Plato hammered

out their thoughts; where orators such as Demosthenes perfected their skills. "They forget that ordinary ancient Athenians had far worse living conditions than their modern counterparts, often living in small mud brick huts with no windows."

Bridges, a 40-year-old archaeologist, Princeton PhD, and modern urbanist from Oklahoma, has lived in Athens for six years – and plans to stay. "Unlike New York, which is a nice place to visit but not in which to live, Athens is a nice place to live in but not to visit," he says. "There is still a lax style of life – people walk, they don't run." He explains further, "You have a choice of thousands of tavernas and restaurants with all types of music from Greek rembetika to pop, and there is so much theatre: movie houses are everywhere and they are still cheap. But it takes time to discover all these things. Visitors often lack time."

Bridges has lived in Paris and Rome also and says the sanctity of archaeological sites in Greece – building contractors are strictly forbidden to construct on them – affords areas of 'space' in Athens, if you look around. "The green areas around the Acropolis, the *Agora*, Lycabettus and Philopappou are large spaces open to the public in the center of Athens, such as you just cannot find in the center of other cities like Rome or Cairo," he asserts.

Many of the estimated 60,000 comprising the American community in Greece share Bridges' view – and most are long-term visitors. "I've been living here for ten years and I still feel the magic of Athens every time I return from a trip abroad," says Helen Pottakis, an American businesswoman from Seattle married to a Greek cabaret singer. "It's not the smog or the terrible traffic congestion I miss when I come back. It's the proximity of sea and mountain, beautiful varieties of nature and seasons, the traditional Greek way of life still strong in Athens, and the fun everyone has with life." Pottakis says Greeks still think "...life is worth living to the full every day of the week – and not just on weekends."

The capital's four million residents complain almost daily about the traffic

congestion, high noise levels and pollution, soaring rents, increasing crime and the gradual disappearance of the traditional *kafeneions* and small, cheap neighborhood tavernas.

Athenians generally earn about twice as much as their counterparts in the provinces, but many still find it necessary to hold a second job. Unemployment is on the rise, but the backbone of Athenian commercial activity remains the small private family business.

"We ourselves are to blame for the faults of Athens because of our increasing affluence," said Yorgos Petrinakis, an environmentalist working for the municipality of Athens. "We want bigger and faster cars, better food and better homes, but we cry when our city changes its character and our young people start contemplating crime to get the things they want."

Though Greece's murder rate remains eight times lower than that of the United States, affluence has brought increasing crime; poorly-trained and underpaid police officers often feel helpless in coping. Greek newspaper headlines scream "Police do nothing as yet another bank robbed" – a headline unimaginable in Athens even a decade ago. Though crime and especially burglaries, bank robberies and murder have almost doubled since 1970, payroll cash is still carried in bulging briefcases by elderly, unaccompanied cashiers, and doors are often left unlocked.

Poverty is hard to spot in Athens, where peasants from the provinces have come laden with wealth after selling their land and investing their savings in Athens real estate. Every Athenian suburb has running water and electricity and though social services remain poor, the family structure cushions unexpected tragedies or problems.

"Athens for me is the family and the village," says Jim Quigley, an American from Chicago teaching English to Greek schoolchildren. "Unlike in any other country I have visited, Athenians are a bunch of families and all these families have a village they come from and go back to several times a year," he notes.

Those who have come to love Athens, despite her faults, maintain the hope that the city's problems can be solved – or at least that progress can be made in solving them – without that special Athenian charm slipping away.

□

Lee Stokes is the Athens Bureau Chief of United Press International.

Three for education

by Heather Tyler

Three enterprising British teachers working in Athens have set up a frontistirion and examination center which doubles as an adult evening institute for the southern coastal suburbs.

Called the Voula Educational Development Centre, it offers adults the opportunity to learn English, Greek, other foreign languages and art, with intensive courses in small specialized units.

All three partners – Martin Scott, his wife Helena, and Jennifer Curtis – have Bachelor's degrees in education. The Scotts have been working in Greece for four years, and Curtis for three.

"We felt there was a need for a broadly based center in this area of Athens, which combined academic, cultural and social programs," says Martin.

"We provide adults with friendly learning situations, where there is also an opportunity to meet and reflect on their Greek experience. Primarily, this is a center of excellence – there are similar programs in Britain. Glyfada is a desert for adult education, and we aim to change that."

V.E.D.C., located on Xenofondos Street, Voula, teaches all levels of English and as an examination center, provides language qualifications and mathematics skills which are accepted

worldwide and which also prepare young people for university and college entrance.

The Centre is offering intensive three-week courses in June and July in introductory French and German, beginners' and intermediate Greek and English, and an art course in charcoal, pastel sketching and water-color painting which will be taught by Curtis, who trained and taught in London. She also specializes in screen printing, photography and graphic design.

Martin specializes in history, English as a foreign language and educational computing; Helena in mathematics.

The three say that teaching in Greece has been a positive, satisfying experience, even if the money hasn't been so rewarding. The delinquency problem among children here is less severe than in Britain – something which has a great effect on children's attitudes toward learning.

"Being in Greece has given us the chance to educate rather than control, which is the normal classroom experience for both teacher and pupil in Britain," explains Martin.

"There is a willingness to learn, in fact a deep commitment to education among the Greek and foreign communities here. This motivation has encouraged us to diversify and expand teaching facilities and capabilities." □



Left to right: Helena and Martin Scott, Jennifer Curtis; running a center of excellence

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From legal work to leg work

In Melbourne, London, and all over America there are open dance schools where you walk in, slap your money on the piano and join the class," explains Helen Hayios, one of the founders seven years ago of the Dance Workshop. "You couldn't do it here in Athens; a great pity because then only the dedicated dance."

In 1981, Hayios and partners Olivia Krimpas and Alexandra Tsoukalas were enrolled in dance programs, paying by the month and missing half the classes.

"We all had young children at the time; one week a teacher would be sick; one week a kid would be sick. We identified a very real need for a more open dance center not locked into programs and syllabuses and professional career training."

The Dance Workshop opened up in an old computer office with 100 square metres of floor space and the three partners leading classes. Although they had something much smaller in mind, the idea caught on quickly and soon they were bringing in dancers for guest stints, acquiring a staff and offering tap, belly dancing, jazz, juggling; in fact, "...anything to get people moving and see dance as a fun thing to do."

Hayios, born in Melbourne, finished law school and practiced commercial law there for ten years. As a child she competed in gymnastic events, but later switched disciplines.

"I noticed pretty soon that I didn't like the equipment. The best gymnastic work for me was floor work. One day I sat up and realized that what I was really on about was dance."

She danced through her school years, her university years and while practicing law. She was president of the Melbourne University Modern Dance Group, but as a young lawyer in a country practice, found no dance group and so started her own dance school. Later, practicing in the city, she created another school and pioneered courses in teaching composition to inner-city school children.

"It wasn't just fooling around, pretending you're trees, but structured, conceptual building of movement sequences in orders that could be repeated."

Hayios came to Greece as a tourist. Like most Australians, she travelled a lot, a need brought on, she thinks, by

the country's isolation.

"Australians like to travel because we're always conscious that there's a big world out there."

"That isolation shows up in a lot of ways. In dance, for example, the number of visiting overseas teachers was few and far between. We hopped on a train or plane; drove all night to chase our classes. We didn't ever take them for granted."

Hayios and her Greek husband, who runs a journalism school, have two children, aged seven and ten, and have been building a house in Pendeli. Because of supervisory duties out there, she has been off the dance floor for a couple of years; as of March 1, however, she took over total responsibility for the Dance Workshop from her two partners: "They got tired of struggling along; 'we'll make it this month, we won't next' and going grey over it."

The Dance Workshop has always been a non-profit organization, not a private school, and survives on its own impetus; but Hayios is quick to point out that profit and the arts don't mix.

"No one goes into the arts to make money. Whether you're non-profit or private, I guarantee from one end of the world to the other you are not making money. People who want to make money open other businesses."

"In the good years we broke even," she laughs, "In bad years we went in a bit, but happily over the course of seven years it didn't cost us much and we had a lot of fun from it. My present position is that if it can pay for its keep, it can stay, and I believe it can."

She may have the body and spirit of a dancer but firmly ensconced in her is the mind of a lawyer. She methodically identifies her current goals: to provide a fitness center in Athens, to introduce beginners to the fun of dance and to take advantage of the dance talent passing through Athens.

She intends to appeal to business people and tourists who need such a fitness facility; not professional training, just "an open, happy exercise class you can come into one day and then come into again in a month." Fitness classes in her new brochure include Ballet on your Back, Fat Fighters and Dance-a-Day (keeps the doctor away...).

Introducing beginners to dance has



Helen Hayios: "One day I sat up and realized that what I was really on about was dance."

always been a guiding principle of the Workshop. The size of the classes, 15-20, allows shy beginners to slip into the back until inhibitions are overcome.

"For dance to grow we need more people dancing for fun, more dancers for the companies forming, bigger audiences," she says, adding that Greeks are not "tuned in" to dance; folk dance perhaps, but not performing.

Her third goal, maintaining studio flexibility for the talented dancers passing through, is out of the question for the structured professional dance schools boxed into a yearly syllabus. When the Sydney Dance Company, for example, came to perform here, one of the young dancers gave master classes for a few days. Now a choreographer preparing for this summer's Athens Festival has the studio two evenings a week. A group of young people who'd learned a special movement in New York were using the studio for one Sunday.

Future plans include a weekend Health Fair with medical advice on diet, stress management and general lifestyle, and on the dance side, more emphasis on studio performance, inducing students to work on an entire choreography, presenting it as a performance.

"I've got to start talking the kids into it. Even though it's just us, a family affair, they're still shy about performing. But we can't forget that dance is a performance art. It can be informal; it can be casual; it can be friendly; but it's about performing." □

The Dance Workshop is located at 34 Solonos, tel 360-0239.

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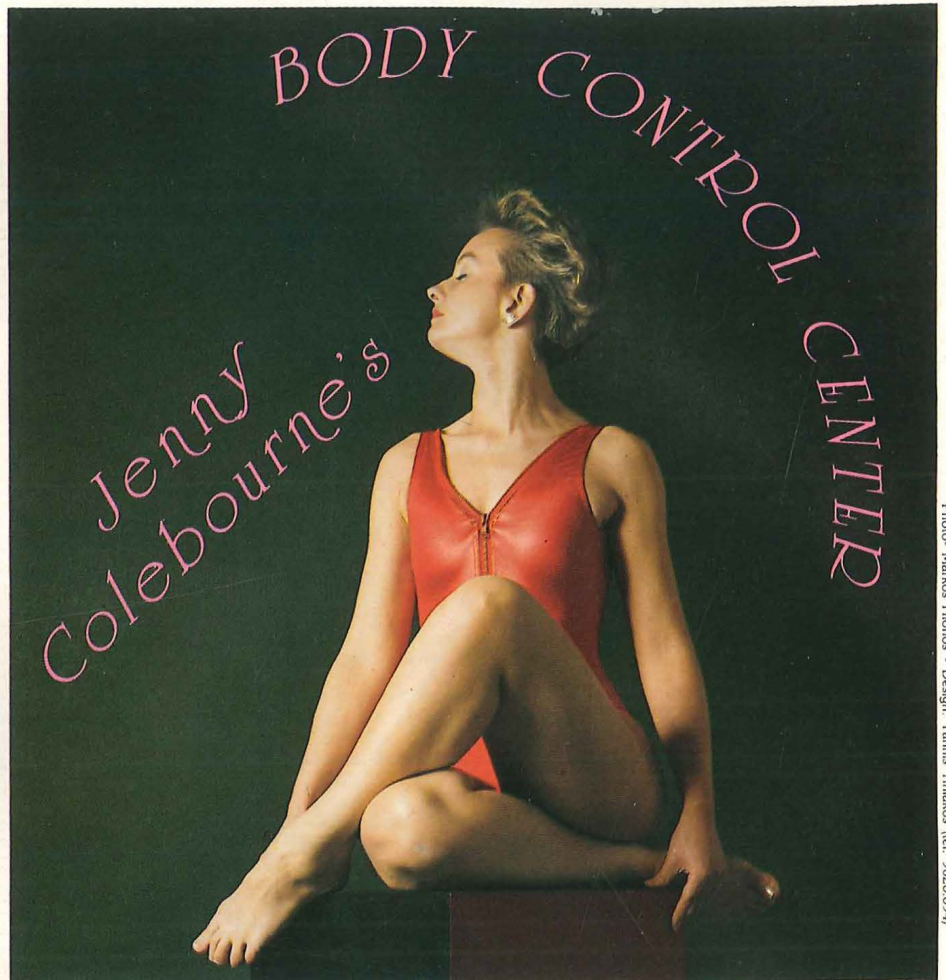
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Quiz time

Every now and then I like to test non-Greek readers of *The Athenian* on their familiarity with the Greek scene. If you are an innocent abroad, try answering the following ten questions. If you get less than five answers right you are totally and blissfully unaware of what's going on and I envy you. If you get between five and ten answers right, the light has begun to dawn on you and you have my entire sympathy. If you get all ten answers right then you've been in Greece too long and should be making plans to move before your addiction to Valium becomes incurable.



1. The President of the Republic is:
 - a) Constantine Mitsotakis.
 - b) Christos Sartzetakis.
 - c) Michael Dukakis.
2. Premier Andreas Papandreou had an historic meeting at Davos with:
 - a) Turgut Ozal.
 - b) Yitzak Shamir.
 - c) The King of Sweden.
3. At this meeting he:
 - a) Agreed to allow Turkey to join UNICEF.
 - b) Complained about the high price of Israeli mangoes.
 - c) Said he might accept the Nobel Chemistry Prize (or any other prize for that matter) if it was offered to him.
4. The fuss over the American bases in Greece has been caused by:
 - a) The Greeks saying they want them to go, but really wanting them to stay.
 - b) The Americans saying they want to stay, but will have to go if the landlords who rent houses to base personnel put the rents up again.
 - c) The landlords' wanting to put the rents up, but wondering who the hell else is going to pay such fancy prices if the Americans go.
5. Marcello Mastroianni is:
 - a) A Greek actor who made good in Italy.
 - b) An Italian actor who made good in Greece.
 - c) Sophia Loren's son.
6. Among the important projects announced by the government is a bridge:
 - a) Joining Rion to Antirion.
 - b) Too Far.
 - c) Tournament.
7. The only vehicles allowed in the commercial center of Athens are:
 - a) Wheelchairs.
 - b) Supermarket pushcarts.
 - c) Pedalos (on rainy days only).
8. DIANA is:
 - a) A movie-house on Plateia Attikis.
 - b) The goddess of hunting.
 - c) A political party.
9. Dionysios Solomos is:
 - a) A seafood restaurant opposite the Acropolis.
 - b) Smoked salmon.
 - c) A national poet.
10. AWOG is:
 - a) The acronym for the American Women's Organization of Greece.
 - b) The acronym for the Absentee Workers' Organization of Greece.
 - c) A Westernized Oriental Gentleman

Objet Trouvé, Esq, Humorist

Sometimes I think I spent my entire Frustrated adolescence trying to: 1) decipher the allegedly off-color lyrics of "Louie, Louie", and 2) discover my mother's latest hiding place for what she and her friend Agatha called the "Athens News in Brief Scrapbook".

But whereas "Louie, Louie", when I finally ran the sheet music to earth, turned out to be disappointingly tame, my mother's clippings from *The Athens News* of the early Sixties are still as 'blue' as they are funny. (It's a good thing she hid them from her 11-year-old too, as I can just imagine what sorts of questions I'd have come up with if I'd read them back then.)

Mother, and Agatha, who worked for the US Embassy, would call one another up every morning during Agatha's coffee break to roar their way through the News In Brief section of the paper. Their scrapbook, now in my possession, grew out of these calls.

The two ladies didn't miss Thurber, Benchley or Buchwald one iota, either: the anonymous and regally deadpan journalist responsible for 'The Briefs' rarely let his readers down. (And when he did, his trusty proofreader could always be counted on to leap into the breach.) In the field of *Objet Trouvé* Humor, the old *Athens News* had no equal. And though I've had to edit the collection rather rigorously, I think there are still some selections I can share. (Proper names, given in full in the original Briefs, have been reduced to initials, and some of the more indelicate details have been omitted, but otherwise, I present the clippings just as they appeared in 1963.)

The anonymous Briefs-writer, whom we'll call Mr Trouvé, was a man of strange obsessions, teeth being one of them. There was this, for example:

DP, 87 of Perahora, Corinth, has shown the village dentist that he is growing a third set of teeth. Mr P is a vegetarian.

Draw your own conclusions about the relationship between mustard greens and molars. Then, consider, too, the tragedy of TL:

TL, 23, of Volos, died from asphyxia last Saturday when he descended into a dry well to find a set of false teeth. Three people who tried to help him were compelled to give up their effort because of the emission of poisonous fumes.

We will never know, nor do we really want to, whether it was teeth or well emitting those fumes.

But Trouvé is at his best when writing about crime – or perhaps when writing about both teeth and crime:

When a policeman attempted to arrest KF, 25, a wanted criminal, in a wine shop on Ag Constantinou St, F attacked him severely on the hands. He was finally handcuffed and led away.

The writer's choice of verbs is remarkable. Could you, for instance, have come up with anything better here than "patted"?

KS, 33, was sentenced Friday to 15 days imprisonment for indecently attacking three schoolgirls who participated in the Red Cross collection Thursday. He said in his defense that he patted them out of enthusiasm about their efforts for charity.

Trouvé's world is not so different from yours and mine, though the policemen of present-day Iraklion might behave a bit less like shepherds than their 1963 counterparts:

Two young couples of foreign tourists caused an uproar in the center of Iraklion

CLOSE TO HOME



ELIZABETH HERRING

Saturday, when they were caught committing indecent acts outside the city's Palace of Justice. Police, notified by passers-by, drove them away.

In Athens, Galatsi Avenue is *still* not one of my favorite boulevards for 'groping':

In Athens on Thursday night on Galatsi Ave, motor-tricycle No.12578 overturned. A passer-by, EP, 50, was very seriously injured... It should be noted that the relatives of the heavily injured man are complaining that the avenue where the fatal accident occurred isn't all lighted, neither is there any sidewalk for people to grope to when vehicles start overturing (sic).

Notice the dramatic tension Trouvé builds up by changing a serious accident to a fatal one in mid-Brief. Such stylistic mastery! And his headlines, when he uses them, are magnificent:

"WATERED" MOTHER WHEN TOLD TO WORK

TG, 40, was sentenced to seven months imprisonment by an Athens court yesterday for insulting and pouring a four-gallon tin full of water on his mother's head. The incident occurred when his mother had requested him to go to work instead of staying home.

Trouvé, on crime again, recording the unassailable logic of the Argos police:

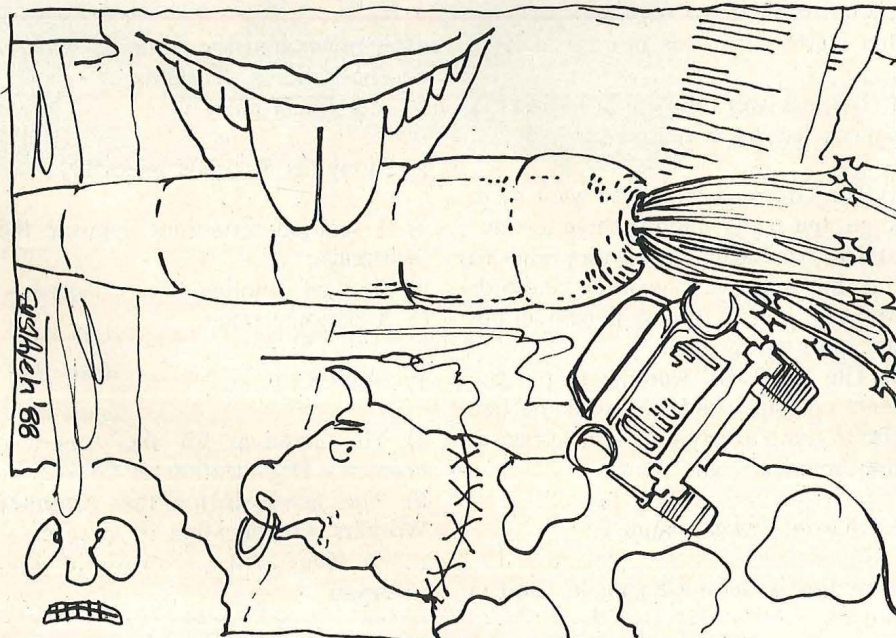
Carpenter PB, 53, was found dead in his home in Argos with a shot through the head, and the pistol which fired it near his body. Doctors say he committed suicide; but police think it was murder, as B was quite rich and had no responsibilities.

One butcher's beef proves another's undoing:

A butcher in Rhodes sewed the head of a calf onto the body of a cow, thus passing off the meat as veal, which is more expensive than beef. Another butcher told the police.

From the "Villages I'd Steer Clear Of" department, this:

AL, from Kalamaki, was sentenced to 17 and a half years in prison by the Patras Criminal Court, for murder. His brother, D, accused of complicity, was sentenced to



five and a half years. They were found guilty of accidentally killing KS when they fired at another fellow-villager whom they were trying to assassinate.

And this:

I, wife of GT, and mother of three children, and EB, 28, also mother of three, who last March had a shotgun duel in Lakopetra, Patras, were yesterday sentenced to two and a half months suspended imprisonment each.

From the "Strange Weapons" department:

The trial of EF, 28, accused of murder, opened in Athens Criminal Court yesterday. She allegedly killed her 31-year-old fiancé, NT, with an electric iron on Christmas Eve.

And, as if that weren't enough:

Four 'peeping Toms', three aged 16 and one 36, were arrested by police on Sunday as they were peering through holes they had bored in the wall of a countryside center outside Athens which provides rooms for couples. The four men were found to be all armed with large drills with which to bore the holes.

If you were wondering what constituted teddy-boy behavior, circa 1960, wonder no more:

SV, 26, a peddler, has been arrested for lashing with a whip PD, 28, in the Athens suburb of Vyrona. V was sent to the Prosecutor's Office accused of causing physical injuries and of teddy-boy behavior.

From the "Cleanliness Before Godliness" department:

EK, 46, was caught red-handed while stealing money from the St Panteleimon Church in Kamena Bourla. She told police she needed the money to continue her baths.

Sometimes, the worthy Trouvé gets some help from his proofreader, as illustrated here...unless, of course, you know what a hurnay is:

Workmen engaged in broadening the Kavalla-Salonika public road have come upon an ancient tomb belonging to the 3rd century BC. Hurnay bones were also discovered in an earthenware receptacle.

And don't be "put off" by Trouvé's phrasal verbs...

The fire that broke out in the Koukouvitsa district last Sunday was checked and almost put off by the villagers and gendarmes yesterday morning.

...because his heart's always in the right place. Witness the following public service message:

Authorities have warned the youth of Athens to be careful, since an amazing increase in venereal disease has been recorded recently.

No, *The Athens News* has never been the same since Mr Trouvé left the staff. But Agatha and Mother and you and I can keep his name alive till he turns up again. (Just beware, *Greece Today!*) □

This column originally appeared in October 1985.



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The London City ballet at Athens College

The London City Ballet will be performing at Athens College on June 1, 2 and 3 as part of the school's pleasant program of spring cultural events.

When it was founded by Harold King, the company used to give lunchtime performances at the Art Theatre in London. These events were attended mostly by children but the standard was good and the atmosphere enjoyable. The company still provides special programs for schools, including lectures and demonstrations as well as performances.

It is to the company's credit that it has survived a full ten years while maintaining high standards under tough conditions. In 1983, the Princess of Wales was so impressed by the Ballet that she has since taken a special interest in its artistic development. Last year, the company was a co-winner of the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts Award for the best use of sponsorship "to develop and maintain their level of activity".

It seems, then, that it will be worth

going to Psychico to see what the group has achieved. They will be bringing 15 of their dancers to Athens and will be presenting *divertissements* from *Laurenica* with choreography by Samsova and music by Minkus; *Othello* by Peter Darrell (Peter Darrell, who was Artistic Director of the Scottish Ballet re-

cently died, so this may be an opportunity to reflect upon his achievements, which were considerable); music by Liszt; *Pie Jesu pas de deux* with choreography by Trinder and music by Faure; and *The Nutcracker* choreographed by Clegg with music, of course, by Tchaikovsky. □



"The Nutcracker", "Othello", "Pie Jesu pas de deux," and more



The London City Ballet: at Athens College in June



The London City Ballet Company

Setting a thief to catch a thief

Brigands with a Cause: Brigandage and Irrendentism in Modern Greece 1821-1912, by John S Koliopoulos, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1987. 342 pp.

Early one morning recently in a northern suburb, a merchant was sweeping the pavement in front of his shop when a young fellow in a Black Prince helmet riding a Kawasaki 750-Turbo roared down the street. To the shopkeeper it seemed that the motorcyclist had deliberately swerved across a puddle to send a spray of mud and water over his newly pressed trousers. Beside himself with rage, the shopkeeper shook his fist after the fast vanishing figure, shouting, "Wait till the Turks come back! Then you'll get what you deserve!"

Of course the shopkeeper was wrong in thinking that this display of arrogance, egoism or deliberate malice so typical of outlaw society would have fared ill under the Turks. In fact, the youth would have flourished in the days of banditry. But in a way the shopkeeper was right. Whatever the

influence of antiquity, Byzantium, Slavism or the West, it is the 400 years of Turkish rule which have contributed most to the character of the modern state and its citizens.

This historical study is refreshingly different from those composed in endless volumes by ancient academicians whose accounts of the Greek War of Independence consist mainly of women throwing themselves and their children *en masse* off Suliot or Psariot cliffs, or hyperventilating heroes blowing themselves and their monasteries to bits to escape buggery by hordes of sex-starved bashibazouks.

John S. Koliopoulos has written a well-researched, carefully documented book, the subject matter of which is colorful and fascinating. Leaving to poets the War of Independence as a spiritual rebirth of a downtrodden people nobly aspiring to freedom and death, the author states in plain prose that the struggle was mostly about sheep-stealing and developing the fine art of rustling.

Like the origins of most things in this part of the world, those of banditry are

lost in the mists of time, ignorance and superstition. The startling thing about brigandage wasn't that it existed but that, though in the semi-feudal, anarchic conditions of 150 and many more years ago it seemed inevitable, it continued in existence so long after the establishment of the new state, and stamped its impression so vividly on the character of Greek society.

Whether it was Ottoman rule, or the Byzantine before it, which led to the environmental decline of Greece, or at least to that part of it which won freedom during the War of Independence, is pretty much guesswork. Yet it is clear that during the *turkokratia*, agricultural investment diminished "in plantations, watercourses, cisterns, mills, farm buildings, bridges and roads." It led to a relocation of a large population to the highlands. Animal husbandry at the expense of agriculture was given great impetus by the Turkish occupation, so that property in the lowlands became consolidated in large estates and expansive tracts were abandoned to pasturage...and malaria.

The reason why intellectuals today search in the mountains for their cultural traditions in, say, music and dance, is not that they originated there, but that they were preserved in these 'pockets of resistance'.

This flight of the peasants to the mountains, the giving way of ploughed land to pasturage led, the author says, "...to the plain's loss and highland's gain."

Yet highland society became isolated and therefore hostile to the world of the lowlands. The dispersal of population into remote villages distantly manipulated by foreign and arbitrary rule produced what the author calls "an insecure and competitive climate" which became not only the breeding ground for brigandage but for many other antisocial aspects which are characteristic of Greek reality.

The fragmentation of society which the broken-up geography of Greece encouraged, the absence of strong central government, the indigenous scarcity of resources and the consequent insecurity of life favored local attachments, and the patriarchal family became "the principal political institution demanding the prime claim to loyalty."

"This world of intense competition and opposition," the author maintains, "favored the qualities of arrogance and



A brigand of the 1870s



A brigand of the 1920s



Pavlos Melas

distrust." In this climate that encouraged sheep-stealing, robbery and arms-bearing, a military class developed. The bands of Christian irregulars licensed by the Ottomans called 'armatoles' were entrusted with the task of controlling brigands who were known as 'klephts'. The armatoles themselves were former outlaws who were amnestied and then employed to suppress outlawry. Often these armatoles, if they were unsuccessful and lost patronage, reverted to brigandage, and the roles of 'cops and robbers' became blurred and interchangeable. It was always a case of setting a thief to catch a thief.

The author devotes many of his most interesting pages to the way of life which these armatoles and klephts pursued and the characteristics which made their leaders successful. These *kapetanoi* received authority directly from the Turkish pashas and often possessed considerable property, mostly in flocks of sheep and goats because these were literally moveable real estate. They had to know their men well, were strict in discipline, generous in rewards, savage in punishment and vigilant in seeking advantage. A foggy-headed idealist like the American philhellene George Jarvis might complain that "without money the greatest man is not considered here" (Byron was too worldly wise to object), but during the war against the Turks, coupled with civil strife, resources were

chronically short, yet men had to be paid and fed. Karaiskakis is described as the captain par excellence. A klepht from the age of 15, "he was brave, hot-tempered, impetuous, foul-mouthed, generous in rewarding bravery" and, when the going was good, distributed meat and wine to his men and entertained them with troupes of musicians.

During the War of Independence both klephts and armatoles flourished and changed their loyalties from the Greek revolutionary governments to the Ottomans and to Ali Pasha with bewildering frequency. But one of the chief reasons banditry continued to flourish after the foundation of the new state and the cessation of hostilities was due to the Great Powers. From the start the guarantors of Greek freedom - Britain, France and Russia - would not allow a professional army that could express Greek national aspirations.

From the start, the regular Greek army was a decorative Western institution consisting of Bavarians. If the armatole captains treated the revolutionary government of Capodistria with suspicion and contempt, they looked upon the Bavarian regime as being often more objectionable and foreign than that of the Turks.

As both the armatoles and klephts had never known a central government that was not "foreign, capricious, exacting and hostile, the War of Independence did not produce a sense of national sentiment, as later Greek historians assume." The image of the proud and freedom-loving klepht was largely a romance developed by intellectuals long after the War of Independence. It became a literary pose in Athens to confuse post-war outlaws with pre-war heroes. By virtue of defiance the klephts eventually captured the imagination of the people who exalted them in their folk songs. In fact, these klephts were no Robin Hoods: they indiscriminately robbed rich and poor, and terrorized the helpless peasantry when they were too weak or cowardly to attack the powerful.

The creation of a regular national army in 1837 replacing the Bavarians did nothing to improve its image. Universal conscription - which could easily be paid off by the wealthy until recently - was detested. The result was massive draft evasion which led to even more brigandage. So serious did the phe-

nomenon become that although the frontiers of the country were guaranteed by the three protecting powers, over one quarter of the national budget was paid to support an army in order to maintain peace *within* the country.

Successive governments were hopelessly self-contradictory in handling the brigand problem. A tough policy which would result in half the nation's prisoners being bandits would be followed by wholesale amnesties. As a result, roving bands plundered villages and towns at whim. Hostages were kidnapped in the centers of towns like Chalkis and Lamia and, in 1844, Athens itself appears to have been besieged, literally, by outlaws.

The Dilessi affair of 1870 in which four tourists were murdered in Attica gained notoriety mainly because the victims were foreign. In fact, such incidents were not rare, and people were abducted on the Athens-Piraeus road in broad daylight. The brigand Kitsos at that time operated with power equal to that of the government in much of Attica and "often not in conflict with it" the author adds discreetly. Although the Greeks might claim with some justification that international agreements did not allow Greece to prevent brigands from crossing the border from the north, the wrath of England had its effect. Attica was finally cleared of outlaws, and as proof of it, the first summer villas began rising in Kifissia in the early 1870s.

Three years before the Dilessi murders, a high-ranking officer of the gendarmerie is quoted as follows: "Brigandage is but a symptom of a general malady affecting the social body; as a matter of fact, it is one of many symptoms. Default of law, lack of respect for the law, draft evasion, provocative attitudes towards the authorities, paralysis of morals, abuses, self-interest, absence of good faith and many other failings are all symptoms of this malady." If any of this resembles criticism one still hears today, it speaks well for the tenacity of tradition.

Greeks, however, have a wonderful way of turning shortcomings into virtues. It was Kollettis, when he was prime minister, who first had the idea of deflecting the depredations of brigands on innocent citizens by encouraging patriotic forays across the northern borders into Thessaly. By the 1870s, outlaws were relegated mainly to activ-

ity within the Ottoman Empire and their association with irredentism became closer. The annexation of Thessaly in 1881 simply pushed brigand activity further north, its adherents now swelled by large numbers of landless peasants who had been attached to the huge Turkish estates.

By the turn of the century, brigandage and irredentism had become fused. Without any questions being asked about their past, Greeks from unliberated Macedonia and Epirus were invited to enlist in the army with the same status as Greek citizens. Then the hero, Pavlos Melas, happily recruited brigands among his followers, wore a shepherd's cloak and pointedly called himself and his men 'armatoles'. If this was a bit of play-acting it was due to the fact that brigandage had itself become legal and had therefore lost its real identity.

Nevertheless, the brigand way of life was enormously helpful in carrying on the Balkan Wars, the Albanian War much later, and above all the resistance against the Nazis when the activities of EDES, and especially of ELAS, used brigand methods to great effect.

"If crime is ultimately not without use to society," the author writes somewhat primly, "lawlessness...was more than useful to 19th century Greece: it became embedded into the very formation of the modern Greek nation state."

"Eventually," he continues, "the properties and characteristics associated with banditry and the social elements that stood for these properties and their corresponding values became the predominant features of the modern Greek state and society, albeit in a Western guise."

"Greeks," the author concludes wryly, "have a double attitude towards brigandage - hostility towards the crime but admiration for the criminal - and consequently, a striking capacity for self-deception in times of national crisis."

The criticism seems a bit harsh. That Greeks tend to explain away their own failings in terms of outside forces conspiring against them may be true, but the people who exploit such sentiments are more to be blamed than those to whom they are addressed. It would be laughable today to accuse Greeks of

beliefs which present-day politicians are amused to credit them with. Greece suffers the same problem that many Western democracies do: the people have outgrown their leaders.

But to say that Greeks seek delusion in their own traditions, in the "attractive veneer of *pallikarism*" and "the misguided efforts of folklorists seeking connection with antiquity" shows a lack of generosity. Given 1992 and all that, should it be felt necessary that Greeks abandon their long, albeit checkered, past? It's not a question of Greeks giving up their birthright for a mess of Western pottage. Rather, it is that things of very long standing are not to be quickly settled, particularly if they seem contradictory. Claiming one has all the answers is just arrogance in another guise. There are future generations coming along to decide in their own way.

Even the intellectual whom the author loves to criticize, Ion Dragoumis, could express astonishment at his own inconsistency, when he expressed, at the same time, a profound contempt for his own countrymen and a passionate love for the Greek earth. □

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gallery rounds

Lolosidis: ennui

George Lolosidis' latest work at the Argo Gallery vividly portrays images of a lonely existence. He explores the inner world of the solitary person – his moods, feelings, diversions – in still lifes and figurative paintings in which objects evoke the same intense emotional appeal as figures.

The vocabulary of the still lifes – an empty whisky bottle, an overflowing ashtray, a telephone, or a spray of flowers – acts as a surrogate lexicon for a human presence. Depression and frustration are the dominant chords. These themes are augmented by a kerchief hanging out of an open drawer or the smoky gloom of smoldering cigarettes, both denoting departure, absence, loss.

Striking for their haunting melancholy are the paintings of a closet with shirt and coat hanging limply, a crushed hat on the shelf; of a hunting gun on a chair; of brushes and paints neatly stacked on an artist's table, unused.

Articulating these sentiments with everyday objects, Lolosidis creates an aura of unhappiness and rejection – a 'dead end', the stated theme of his exhibit. These are still lifes with a haunting message.

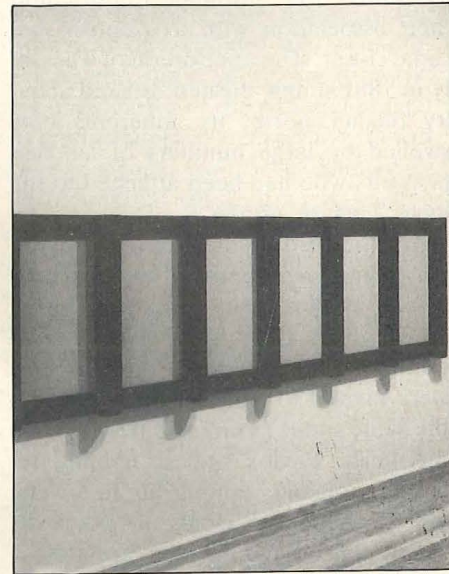
The paintings of figures are equally sensitive in creating an atmosphere of despair and suffering. The essence of

loneliness and rejection is beautifully rendered in the painting of an elderly sea captain quietly sipping his glass of ouzo. The brilliant light highlighting his hands and face against the dark background exposes the sorrow of his fading years.

Younger men, also solitary figures, are shown drinking or smoking, lost in a reverie of lonely contemplation; sitting, outdoors by an easel and an unfinished painting, or indoors, by a window, with the landscape mirrored on the pane. A double panel of a cocker spaniel is a fitting companion-piece to these lonely souls. Trusting eyes stare out at the viewer, the dog's reflection echoed in the panel below.

Argo Gallery

Merlin 8, Kolonaki
May 9 – 28



Gerhard Merz's "Roma": wood on red wall

Geometrical Period revisited

In April, the House of Cyprus, an exhibition center newly organized by the Cypriot Embassy, mounted a most interesting group show, sponsored by the DESTE Foundation for Contemporary Art, which featured the latest in post-modern work of New York and European artists.

This new generation of artists, the Post-Modern Abstractionists, or Neo-Geo as they're often called, relate their work to geometry and technology rather than to painting on a 'natural surface', and include elements from Minimalist, Conceptual and Pop Art. Their materials are household items – consumer products that create art as a commodity rather than as aesthetic images, recalling Duchamps' 'readymades'.

The theme of the exhibition, "Cultural Geometry", as Jeffry Deitch, the exhibiton's curator, explains in his catalogue essay, refers to the cultural understanding of geometric forms and how they function as symbols and images of desire. They exist more as emblems of modern art and are viewed as commercial symbols rather than as paintings or sculptures.

This new art form's cultural reading of geometric forms, Deitch continues, leads to a similar reading of earlier periods of geometric structures. The exhibiton was developed along these lines – interweaving the modern art work with fine examples from ancient Greek and Cypriot art.

Thus, vacuum cleaners, 40 panels of

empty picture frames, an obelisk of red kitchen pots, a stainless steel pool ladder, a bed, etc were juxtaposed with Attic and Cypriot pottery from the Geometric Period.

Over 25 international artists, mainly from New York, participated: some presenting art as a commodity; others with signs and symbols, or with abstract paintings. The dean of the group is Richard Artschwager (USA) who creates furniture sculptures based on a formica surface and who has recently had a retrospective show at New York's Whitney Museum of American Art. He has many followers from the younger generation (Vaisman, Koons, Bickerton).

Meyer Vaisman (Venezuela) satirizes cultural symbols with images from the mass media. His presentation, *The Whole Public Thing*, was an assemblage of four toilet seats set on a large square base covered by a simulated tweedy fabric. Jeff Koons (USA) displayed new appliances – vacuum cleaner, broom, polisher – in a shelved plexiglass showcase; and Jenny Holzer (USA), an electronic board that continuously flashed various messages.

Gerhard Merz (West Germany) contributed an installation based on architectural elements – seven connected rectangular wooden frames showing a raspberry-red colored wall through the open panels. Evoking the city of Rome, it relates form, content and color.

Peter Haley (USA), regarded as a



George Lolosidis' "Dead End"

theoretician of post-modern abstraction, relates abstraction to technological systems. In his painting *Two Cells with Circulating Conduits*, he formulates a line into a conduit, and a square into a cell, emphasizing the geometric structure.

The show went on in this tenor reflecting yet another direction through which modern art has distanced itself from traditional figurative art. Perhaps it is still too early to assess how deeply rooted is the concept of art as a commodity; the concept does,

served Zahariou well: his current exhibition at Gallery Skoufa 4 exhibits his firm footing in technique.

The subject of the exhibition is Mount Athos – its austere, commanding monasteries dating from the 10th century; its unique architecture that allies the Byzantine with the Slavic; its mountainous terrain that makes access to the great monasteries so difficult.

Zahariou depicts panoramic vistas both in mosaic and in oil. The mosaics are beautiful compositions, some executed in a painterly style with finely

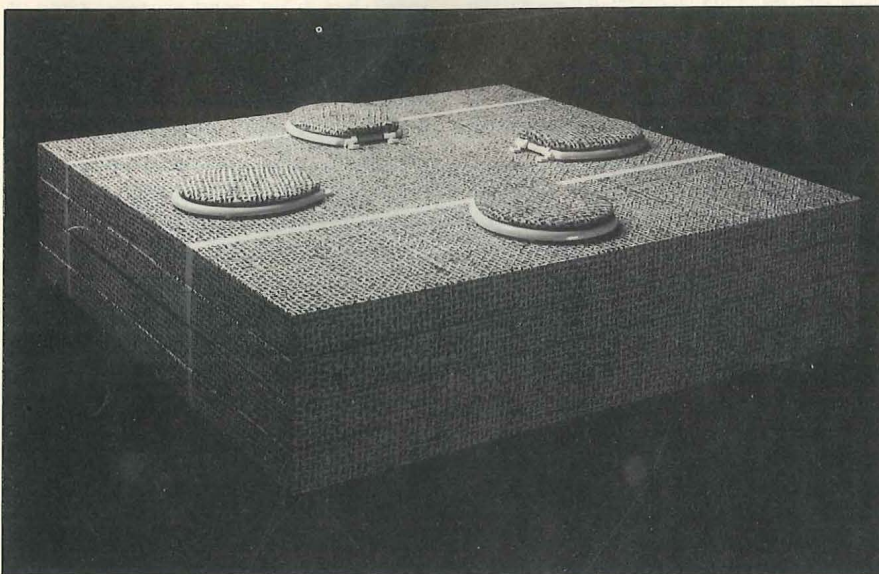
cut inlays of opaline glass, enamel and stone that move (seemingly) with the rhythms of very fine brushstrokes; others, in a more abstract style, the artist using larger fragments of stone, richer colors and rendering a dazzling play of light.

Most interesting are the *Protato*, the 'first' of 20 monasteries where the governing representative of Mt Athos resides, and the *Lavra* monastery, the oldest structure on the holy mountain built by St Athanasios. The latter is a charming scene including figures of priests walking up to the monastery with their donkey.

The oil paintings continue the same theme, exhibiting more clearly an underlying geometric structure in the richness of Byzantine colors. Several paintings are duplicated in mosaic, each composition enhanced by the artist's choice of medium. The *Monastery of St Dionysos* is most picturesque, crowning the tip of a treacherous-looking peak.

Zahariou has decorated many churches with frescoes and mosaics; a notable work, over seven metres long, is in Cyprus and depicts Genesis and the beheading of John the Baptist.

Gallery Skoufa 4
Skoufa 4, Kolonaki



Meyer Vaisman's "The Whole Public Thing": processed inks on canvas

however, attract the younger generation of abstract artists in America and, lately, in Europe.

House of Cyprus
Iraklitou 10, Kolonaki
Exhibition ended in April

Mt Athos master

Fotis Zahariou brings to his first one-man show the experience of a 35-year-long career as a restorer of Byzantine art. Attached to the Ministry of Culture soon after his graduation from the School of Fine Arts, he has spent much of his life in northern Greece – Thessaloniki, Arta, Vergina – and especially on Mount Athos, studying and preserving the wealth of frescoes, mosaics and icons in the possession of the Greek monasteries.

The knowledge gained from working with archaeologists and art historians such as Andronikos and Hadjidakis has



Zahariou's "Monastery at Mt Athos", an oil

Cher: she does it her way

Cher is one of this year's front-runners in the Academy Awards' Best Actress category for her role in Norman Jewison's *Moonstruck*, nominated for six awards, including Best Film. She portrays Loretta Castorini, the 37-year-old Brooklyn accountant whose life of 'quiet desperation' offers little hope of achieving any joy. On the eve of her wedding to Mr Johnny (Danny Aiello), her solid but uninspiring fiancé, she is swept away by a mad passion for his younger – and wilder – brother, Ronny (Nicholas Cage).

Cher has become one of the screen's biggest box-office draws and moreover, is now regarded as a serious, accomplished actress. This is nothing short of a momentous achievement for Cherilyn Sarkisian, a high school dropout of Cherokee Indian-Armenian ancestry, born in California 42 years ago. Her mother was married innumerable times, thrice to her father who died while serving a jail term.

Few performers have taken the risks – and had them pay off – like Cher. She projected a flower child image as a pop icon in the 1960s when she and Sonny Bono were married and singing together; their smash hit "I've Got You Babe" has sold over three million records to date. The couple divorced in 1975, and Cher then entered a much-publicized seven-day marriage to rock

musician Greg Allman. She was the star of a highly successful television series in the 1970s, a show more notable for her glamorous wardrobe than for its comedy sketches and musical interludes.

By the late 70s, Cher had become a high-powered nightclub performer, appearing in Las Vegas and on world tours, raking in about \$300,000 a week. Still unfulfilled, though, she left Los Angeles for New York hoping to find work on the stage. Robert Altman gave her her first big break as an actress, casting her in the off-Broadway production of *Come Back To The Five & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*, a role she repeated in his movie.

Cher hasn't forgotten the laughter that erupted when her name appeared on the screen in the opening credits of Mike Nichols' *Silkwood*, her first serious role. To the surprise of many, her performance as Meryl Streep's homosexual roommate was critically praised and she received an Oscar nomination for best supporting actress.

She appeared next as a tough 'biker' mother with a drug habit, who nevertheless manages to provide tender loving support for her deformed son in Peter Bogdanovich's *Mask*. Her performance won her the Best Actress award at Cannes, but she felt she had been snubbed by the Academy when

she didn't even receive an Oscar nomination for the role. She then shifted gears to portray the lusty playmate of Jack Nicholson in George Miller's *The Witches of Eastwick*: then a timid lawyer in Peter Yates' *Suspect*.

– As Loretta, in *Moonstruck*, Cher truly comes into her own, emoting sensitivity and depth, offset by an unpretentious earthiness. As she emerges from a beauty parlor, having been exquisitely coiffed and manicured for her first date with Ronny, she draws whistles from two passing admirers, stopping them dead in their awestruck tracks. David Watkin's camera lovingly scans her from head to toe; when it pauses for an intense closeup of her strong chisled features, huge soulful eyes and thick, coal-black Medusa-like hair; she is absolutely gorgeous. But she is equally appealing in a more approachable fashion, shuffling around her house without make-up, in a frumpy bathrobe, after being awakened early in the morning.

Of the six films in which she has appeared thus far, *Moonstruck* is Cher's favorite and the one which finally earned her an Academy Award. It has caught the fancy of a broad, popular audience whose spirits have been buoyed by its exploration and vindication of home and family values. Sophisticated viewers may consider this verging on the corny, as they may Dean Martin singing "That's Amore": yet audiences continue to respond to the optimistic view that love, as hope, does spring eternal, often when least expected.

Director Norman Jewison comments: "I think people got bored with reels of mindless, endless action and demanded involvement with the characters." He expands, "When the lights go down, they want to be swept away into a story which they somehow identify with and in which the people have something interesting to say."

Cher reaffirmed her image as a rebel when she appeared at a previous Academy Awards ceremony bare-midriffed in black leather and feathers with cape – a response to being overlooked in the nominations for her role in *Mask*. Just as revealing are her comments: straightforward, but not outlandish. Following are some selected from the Cannes Press conference for *Mask* and from interviews – including an outstanding one by an enamoured Harlan Jacobson, editor of *Film Comment* and MGM publicity material.



Cher, riding tandem with Todd Allen, in "Mask"

Why has she cultivated the image of a rebel?

"Somebody said they felt that I did lots of things I do because I don't want people to know who I am, and in a way, that's true. You can't trust people with your feelings; you can't trust total strangers with your emotions; you can hardly trust people you love, so I don't want everybody knowing every vulnerable part about me."

Does she consider herself a serious actress?

"My boyfriends are young, that's true. My clothes are flamboyant. But am I a serious actress? I'm serious when I'm acting. Am I going to behave in a manner that other people feel is

necessarily a good trait for an actor or actress. That's good in an animal, but I don't think it's good in a human being."

What are her feelings about the character of Loretta in *Moonstruck*?

"It means something to be respected, even though it is not a great breeding ground for creativity or expression in your life. But she felt secure in a family atmosphere, playing it safe. And Mr Johnny, she had known him a long time. She was comfortable. She didn't want to make any leaps into the void."

"So here's a woman who's been going along like this and all of a sudden, she's going to give it up for this guy with this wooden hand. And I

thought 'Yeah, she'll do it if she's smart.'"

Does she relate to the idea of jumping into the void?

"I always pay a big price before I jump into something. I don't know what the outcome is and I usually struggle with it a long time and then I jump. But it's not a casual jump."

Does she feel she's "found" herself?

"I don't think you find yourself until you die. and I'm sure I'm far away from finding myself." □



Cher as the distraught, 'biker' mother in *"Mask"*



Cher, with the cast of *"Moonstruck"*

appropriate? I'm at peace with myself."

What's the best advice she received about acting?

"I was really nervous about my performance (in *Silkwood*) and I asked Meryl Streep 'If you could tell me, one thing about acting in movies, what would it be?' And she said 'You should work harder in my closeup than you do in your own and I should work harder in your closeup than I do in my own.' It was the most important thing I learned from anybody and I didn't know it."

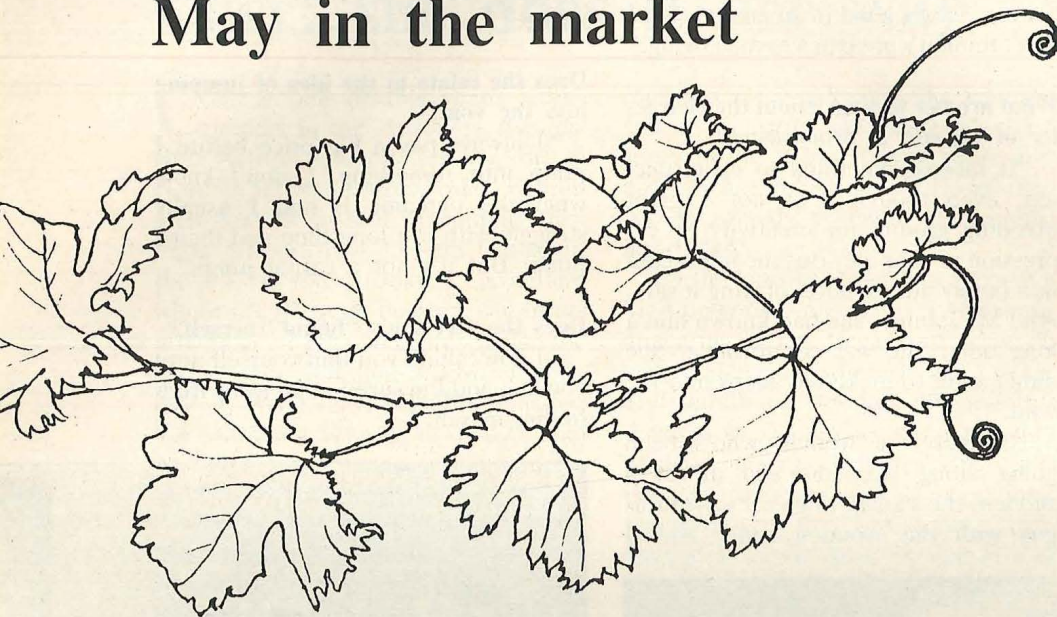
Peter Bogdanovich, the director of *Mask*, claims you are difficult to work with. Is this true?

"I don't think I'm difficult. I'm not difficult unless you're an idiot. I've worked with lots of good people who'd tell you I'm really good to work with. I don't think being easy to work with is



Cher, as Loretta Castorini, accepts a proposal of marriage from her suitor, Mr Johnny (Danny Aiello) in *"Moonstruck"*

May in the market



Early summer fruit is news this month. First the strawberries, and by the end of the month red cherries and probably apricots make a glowing addition to the greengrocers' stalls, and are also sold from hand-carts in the streets. Apples, pears, and lemons are still available, and also grapefruit, but oranges are past their prime, though still excellent for juice. A tasty but not too common May fruit is the easily bruised loquat (*mousmoula*), often sold along the roadside and also found in specialty shops.

There are plenty of salad vegetables and more zucchini, tomatoes, and green beans, but eggplant and peppers are still expensive. Leeks are getting rather tough, but there are beets, spinach, and various kinds of greens. Artichokes are reaching the end of their season and there are no cauliflowers or cabbages. New grapevine leaves are delectable, stuffed with rice in *dolmades*, and there are still broad beans and peas. Mint, dill, and celery tops are at their freshest. The first dry onions reappear at mid-month.

Several varieties of fish can be found, including mackerel.

Flower gardens are ablaze with all the north European summer flowers, at one burst. Scented rose petals are made into jam (it's a laxative, too!) and can be collected for potpourri, together with various sweet-scented leaves, such as scented geranium (also used in jams, and verbena, or lemon-balm. They can also be used most attractively to strew on various desserts.

The local "popular" market, the *laiki agora*, is a joy at any season of the

year, but particularly now when flowers in pots are also on sale (as well as empty pots and potting soil by the kilo). They spring up in a usually quiet street which is suddenly filled with clamour and bustle. Each district of a city has its appointed day and street, and housewives hurry along early with wheeled shopping baskets to catch the freshest fruits and vegetables, while what remains at mid-day can often be picked up even more cheaply. A pot of basil is worth buying now (see Basil below) to grow on your balcony.

Stuffed Vine Leaves (*Dolmades Yalantzi*)

- 30 fresh young grapevine leaves
- 4 or 5 large leaves or some twigs from the vine
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 3 large spring onions, sliced (the white and thick green part only)
- 1 clove garlic, chopped fine (optional)
- 1/2 cup rice (Carolina or *nihak*), washed and drained
- 2 tbsp parsley, finely chopped
- 1 tbsp dill, finely chopped
- 2 tbsp mint, finely chopped
- salt and pepper
- 1/2 cup hot water

Rinse the leaves, snipping off any hard stalks, and blanch them in boiling water. Drain and leave to cool.

Sauté the onions and garlic, then add the rice, stirring till transparent. Add the herbs, salt and pepper, and hot water and half-cook, till the water is absorbed. Allow to cool. (As with other rice dishes, you may parboil the

rice in one cup of water, adding the oil and herbs later.)

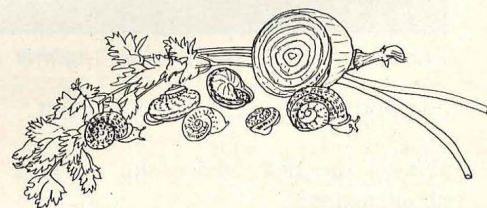
To fill, take a leaf in the palm of your hand or lay it on a working surface, dull side up, and spoon some of the rice mixture into the widest part, turning in the bottom of the leaf and then the sides, and then rolling it up towards the tip.

Spread the large leaves or twigs on the oiled bottom of a heavy saucepan and lay the shiny little parcels, folded side down, into the pan, packing them in tightly to keep them from unwrapping, and press a plate down on top of them. Just cover with hot water and the lemon juice, cover, and simmer for about an hour.

Serve warm with thick egg and lemon sauce or cold as *mezes*.

Vine leaves are also stuffed with minced meat, the quantity of rice reduced by half.

Note: Vine leaves are sold from barrels (and also in jars) in grocers' shops, preserved in brine. They must be rinsed well before using. They can also be frozen, so that *dolmades* may be made fresh later in the year. Pour boiling water over fresh leaves and boil for one minute. Drain immediately and cover with cold water. When cold, drain and dry well, and pack in layers between polythene sheets.



Octopus in Wine Sauce (*Ktapodi Krasato*)

For a party dish:

- 1 large octopus (1 1/2 - 2 kilos)
- 1 cup olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1/2 kilo onions, chopped
- pepper (no salt)
- 1 small bay leaf
- 1/2 cup red wine, semi-sweet (*imiglyko*)
- 3/4 kilo tomatoes or 2 tbsp tomato paste in 1 cup hot water or 1 small tin tomatoes mashed in their own juice

Wash octopus and cut into small pieces. Simmer for 10 minutes, then

drain off the liquid which has gathered. Add the oil, garlic and onions and cook over high heat for a few minutes. Add the wine and, after a few minutes, the tomatoes, pepper, and bay leaf. Reduce heat, cover, and cook very slowly until tender and the sauce is thick, about two hours.

Remove bay leaf. Serves five to six with rice, pasta, or potatoes, and a lettuce salad, or as one of the dishes for a buffet party.

Jam Flan (Pastaflora)

3 cups plain flour and a pinch of salt
1 tbsp baking powder
1 cup softened butter (1 250 gram packet)
1 large egg, separated
1/3 cup sugar
2 tbsp grated lemon peel
1 wineglass brandy
1 cup apricot or peach jam (400 - 600 grams)

Sift the flour, baking powder, and salt into a large bowl. Add the butter, yolk of the egg, sugar, lemon peel, and brandy and mix well, lastly with the fingertips, to make a soft dough. Refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Divide the dough into two pieces. Roll out one piece to the thickness of about two centimetres and lay it in a greased baking tin. Pull off about one-third of the remaining dough and form it into a long, finger-width roll to make a wall around the base dough, having first dampened the edges with water, and press firmly together. (It is much easier, however, to use a deep, straight-sided flan tin and allow the dough to come up the sides in one piece, using, of course, rather more than half of the original dough.)

Spread the jam evenly over the surface; warm it first if very stiff. Roll out the remaining dough and cut in thin strips and lay in the jam in a close lattice-work, pressing the ends firmly onto the dampened side-walls.

Lightly beat the white of egg and brush it over the whole pastry surface. Bake in a medium oven for about 40 minutes. Allow to cool and set the jam before cutting into squares.

Though traditionally made with apricot jam, it is just as good with whatever jam one has most of and can

also be made up with chopped preserved or soaked dried fruit, moistened with lemon juice. It freezes well and makes a useful stand-by for unexpected guests.

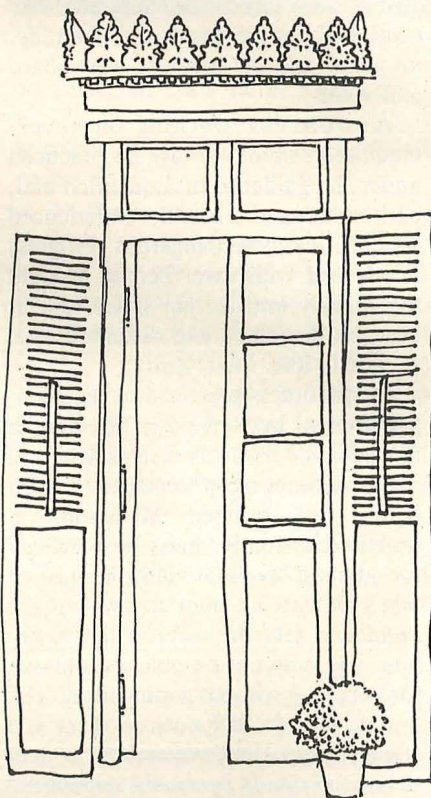
Basil (Vasiliko)

The Greeks do not use basil in cooking, but they love to have a pot on their balconies and will present visitors with a spray of its aromatic leaves. It is said to keep flies away, but also has a religious significance connected with St Basil. It is used by the priests to dip into holy water and splash on the faithful at certain church services and also at the Christening of a new house, shop, or boat.

If you want to use the leaves for your tomato salad or omelette you must have your own plant, as it is not sold at the greengrocer's. Buy one at the local market; the small-leaved variety is best. Two or three small roots will grow together to produce the perfectly round bushes one admires later in the year.

Note: water your basil plant from below. Don't pour water onto the leaves. □

Anne Yannoulis
sketches/A. Camp



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Pranayama, meditation and the Chakras

Having followed and practiced the postures (*asanas*) from yoga you may be interested in extending your yoga practice to include some of the breathing exercises (*pranayama*), meditation and even some of the philosophy of yoga.

Yoga is the combining of the individual self with the universal cosmic energy (in other words, God). The yogis believe that God is like a vibration or energy form which is contained in everything, including ourselves. Yoga has eight different disciplines of which the *asanas*, *pranayama* and the practice of meditation are only three. All the disciplines are complementary and all lead, through different stages, to enlightenment or union with God. Yoga accepts all concepts of God.

I am often asked whether a Christian can practice yoga and my answer is that yoga can enhance the Christian experience. In following months, I will be discussing various breathing techniques (*pranayama*) which you can add to your Hatha practice, as well as talking about

various aspects of meditation. By the way, the *asanas*, or postures, are not physical movements that were invented: they were copied from people in states of deep meditation who assumed these positions naturally. I have seen it happen with my own eyes.

Witnesses then reversed the process and used the positions that they had observed to help them achieve deeper states of meditation – one person may breathe very deeply as in the three-part breathing exercise; another may not breathe for a long time as in the breath retention; another will pant in a manner which is like the ‘bellows’ breath. It depends what physical or spiritual needs a person has as to what may happen in meditation.

I have found meditation a very helpful process and a very positive experience. Always subject in the past to periods of depression, I have found my blues have become a thing of the past. Also, I always needed at least eight hours sleep a night but found, despite my very heavy dancing schedule, that once I began meditation, I needed only six. I danced better than before and in a much more relaxed manner. I had much more creative ideas for choreography, which had always been difficult for me, and they came much more easily and naturally; my mind and my memory were sharp and clear.

A word of warning however: meditation should always be practiced under the guidance of a qualified and, perhaps more importantly, experienced teacher. It can be dangerous. Progress slowly and with care. People brought too quickly into certain states can, at best, be distressed and disturbed and, at worst, lose their sanity.

Meditation is practiced to reach enlightenment but obviously this state is not achieved easily as many stages and many lifetimes must be passed through before it is reached. Meditation, if practiced seriously, must be practiced for at least an hour daily because it takes at least an hour to awaken the *kundalini*. (By the way, in the beginning you may not be able to continue for very long without getting dizzy. The minute you do feel weak or dizzy you should stop.) The *kundalini* is a form of divine energy. It is usually symbolized

by a snake.

In meditation this energy is forced up through the spine through various energy centers. These energy centers are called *chakras*. *Chakras* are wheel-shaped vortices which fly round and radiate energy to different parts of the body. *Asanas*, *mudras* and *bandhas* (locks) are used to seal that energy inside the body so it is forced up through the spine; up through each *chakra* in turn.

There are 11 different *chakras*. The *Muladhara*, *Svadhithana*, *Manipuraka*, *Anahata*, *Visuddhi*, *Anja* and *Sahasrara* are the most important.

The first *chakra*, the *Muladhara*, is situated in the pelvis just above the anus and is the ‘earth *chakra*’. The *Svadhithana* is situated in the genitals and the *Manipuraka* is situated in the navel. Both are the *chakras* for *pranayama*.

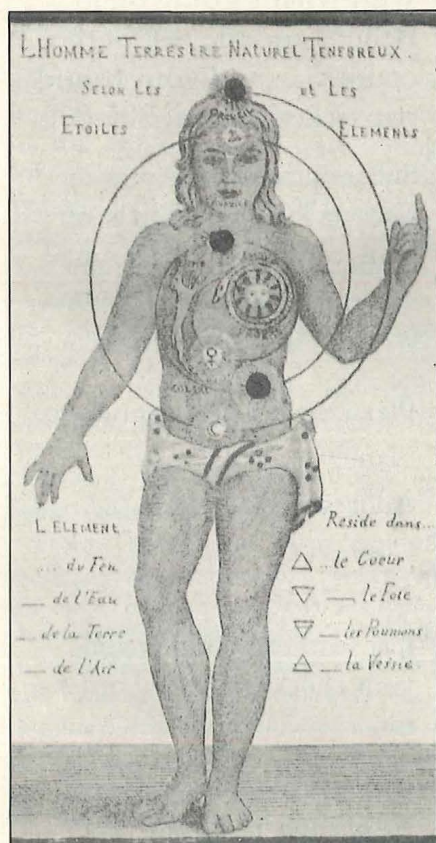
The *Surya*, the ‘sun *chakra*’ and *Manas*, the ‘mind *chakra*’, are situated between the navel and the heart. The *Surya* is the *chakra* which controls the abdominal area and longevity, and the *Manas* is the *chakra* of the emotions, imagination and creativity. This *chakra* is stabilized by the breath hold.

The *Anahata* which is situated in the heart area is the *chakra* of both the physical and spiritual heart. The *Visuddhi* is situated in the throat and is the *chakra* of the intellect and speech. (This is a particularly good *chakra* to focus on when you are doing the shoulder stand.) The *Anja* is situated between the eyes in the middle of the forehead and is the *chakra* of joy. I find this *chakra* a particularly useful one for meditation when I am impatient or my mind starts wandering.

The *Soma*, ‘moon *chakra*’, is situated in the center of the brain and controls the temperature of the body. The *Ialata* is at the top of the forehead and is the master of destiny. The last *chakra* and the most beautiful is the *Sahasrara*. It is the *chakra* of enlightenment and is situated on the crown of the head.

From now on I will be giving *pranayama* and meditation instructions as well as the *asanas*. I will also be using the *chakras* more within the *asanas* themselves.

Jenny Colebourne



The Chakras, according to Gichtel

Health & Fitness

Balancing Stick Pose – Tuladandasana

Tuladandasana exercises the whole body but is particularly beneficial for strengthening the abdominal muscles and the leg muscles. Tyengar, one of the world's best-known yoga teachers, recommends it for runners. It is a posture which involves balance.

Please refer back to *The Athenian*, January 1988, where it is explained carefully how to sense the weight of your body over your feet and how to shift that weight from two feet to one; also check the Standing Bow Pose, February 1988, and the Tree Pose, March 1988.

Tuladandasana requires even more dramatic shifts of body weight, especially in the more advanced versions.

Stand with your feet parallel and just a little apart. The way you position yourself on the soles of your feet is very important. If your feet are incorrectly placed on the floor, your knees will be aligned incorrectly and therefore subject to more stress and more prone to injury. Knees are very delicate. If the knees are incorrectly placed, your hips and pelvis, and therefore your spine and head, will be aligned incorrectly. It will be very difficult to balance with the minimum amount of effort if your whole body posture is incorrect.

We tend to ignore our feet as they seem to be comparatively small, inconsequential and a very long way away, but they are actually extremely important. Standing well on your feet will prevent injury and help you to execute the postures more successfully and with more ease. Check when you are doing other postures – like the Bridge Pose or the Wheel Pose; make certain your feet are correctly placed at all times.

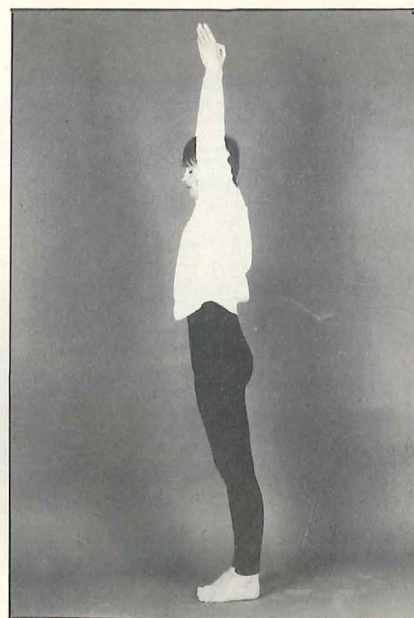
Bring the palms of the hands together, palms facing, underneath the mouth. Take a deep breath in and, as you breathe out, completely relax the shoulders. Take another deep breath in and, as you breathe out, feel the crown of the head gently stretching up towards the ceiling. Remain very calm and peaceful while you are executing any of the postures that involve balance. Keep breathing easily and deeply throughout.

Keeping the palms of the hands together, bring the hands up above the head and stretch the arms. Link the thumbs and yet try to pull the straight arms apart, isometrically, as you stretch the spine as long as you can.

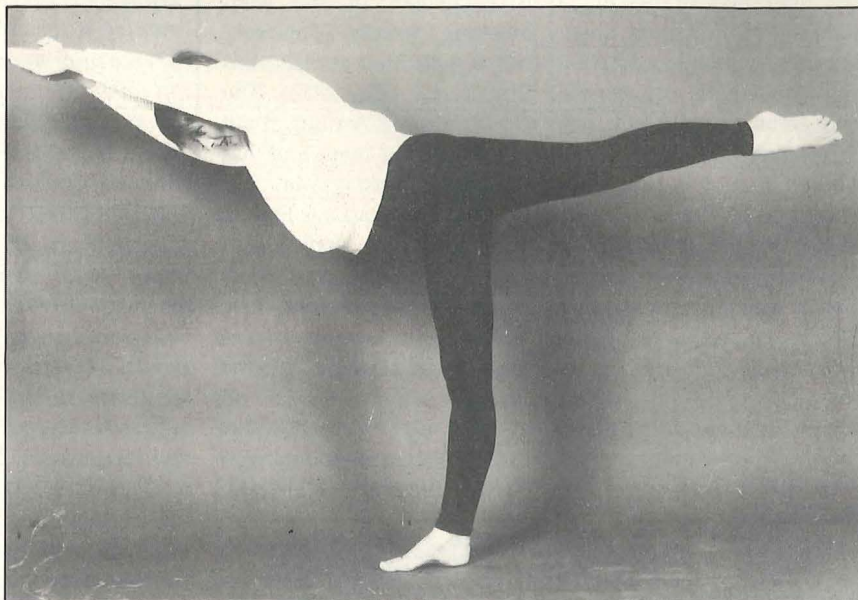
Imagine each of the vertebrae and stretch the cartilage in between them. Feel the sides of the body lengthening, contracting. Remember to keep breathing easily and deeply.

Focus your gaze on the floor quite a distance in front of you. Make sure the abdomen is pulled in and up and that the lower back is not arched.

Extend the right leg out directly behind you and, as you do so, stretch



Link the thumbs and yet try to pull the straight arms apart, isometrically



At the height of the posture, the body and leg form a line parallel to the floor

the spine up even more. Keeping the hips level, begin lifting the right leg; as you do so, bring the body over so that it comes parallel to the floor.

At the height of the posture the body and the right leg should form one long straight line parallel to the floor. It helps to keep the abdomen in and to feel that the right leg is pulling out behind you; that the upper body is stretching well forward. Big deep breaths the whole time.

Make sure that the hips are straight. Focus on the same point on the floor the whole time.

A big shift in weight occurs now, as you push with the supporting leg and step way back onto the right leg; and then bring the feet together in parallel. Keep stretching the arms up for a moment; and, without letting your body falter, bring the palms of the hands underneath the mouth again.

Take a few deep breaths in before

you begin assuming the pose on the other side.

One word about holding the posture: it is recommended that you hold it as long as you feel comfortable. This varies from person to person and the more you practice, the longer you will be able to maintain a pose.

To give you a general idea – when you start out you should hold the posture for about ten seconds and, as you advance, hold for 30 seconds.

All postures in yoga should be done without strain. There should be no sense of competitiveness, either with yourself or with others. You will benefit from the posture just by doing it at your own level; your own speed.

Make *Tuladandasana* even more of an exercise in shifting your weight by taking a big step forward into it and then proceed straight into executing the pose.

Jenny Colebourne

Katey's corner



☆ Greece is such fun as spring moves into summer! Everything, but everything moves out of doors. Whereas all winter long it was easy to locate a fourth for bridge, all of a sudden the lure of the tennis court and the golf course is much more attractive than that of making a Slam – even a Grand Slam. Sometimes people complain that the Greek countryside isn't green enough, but such complainers need only be reminded that it is that same lack of green that's responsible for the lack of bugs. How wonderful it is to be able to plan a picnic or barbecue in the garden and be just about 100 percent sure that it will come off without funny flying things making your guests frantic. Happy summer, everybody!



A rare opportunity was recently presented to many Athenians and friends at Costaki's Gallery in Politeia. A group of Russian folk musicians presented a concert in the gallery, ranging from country folk music representing many areas of that vast country, to the traditional to the more sophisticated urban sounds. Folk instruments – unknown to the audience – were called 'kaljuka', reed-pipes, 'prosvirelka', 'psaltery', 'baian' as well as the more familiar 'balalaika' – all made from materials such as reed, birch bark, horns of animals, and branches of trees. Some of these instruments had to stay immersed in a bucket of water in order to maintain their tone. All were famous artists; it was a night to be remembered.

☆ The American Women's Organization of Greece (AWOG) can now be reached at 639-3250 five days a week from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon. All newcomers are welcome to call for information and find out about membership. Composed primarily of American women, the group also includes international members, and all enjoy a full program of activities with emphasis on learning about Greece and offering community services. Just call to learn more about this 40-year-old organization.

☆ Member of Parliament Gerasimos Apostolatos now has an additional interest. He is Chairman of the **Non-Smoking Society of Greece** which is located at 502 Nikis Street, tel 322-2052. The organization is serious about promoting its aims and has set aside Thursday, May 5 as the first No-Smoking Day in Greece. (If you managed to stop for the WHO No-Tobacco Day in April, but have become a back-slider, here is your second chance. Good luck!)

☆ We are welcoming this month **Ambassador and Mrs Nehad Askalani of Egypt**,



Nothing has quite caught the imagination here in Greece recently so much as the Daedalus experiment of the students, faculty and alumni of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) aimed at human-powered flight. Four of the five world Class Elite Endurance-trained Cyclists who have been training to be pilots of the aircraft are shown arriving in Greece prior to proceeding to Crete. Each stands prepared – on rotation – to be 'the' pilot for the experiment and perhaps by the time you read this (from left) Erik Schmidt, Greg Zack, Kanellos Kanellopoulos, or Frank Scioscia will have been successful.

who have arrived recently in Greece with their son and daughter. The Ambassador has served in Morocco, Japan, Cuba, as Ministry Counselor in Brussels to the EC, as Ambassador to Kenya and the Seychelles, and comes to us from his latest posting as Ambassador to Lebanon. The newly-arrived **Swiss Ambassador, Gerard Franel** and his wife, **Beatrice**, were just in time to host a reception in honor of the Swiss Archaeological Institute. The Ambassador has served in France, Egypt, England, and, while resident in Kinshasha, covered Gabon and the Central African Republic. Ambassador and Mrs Franel have two children and have come to Greece from Indonesia. **Ambassador Graf Von Der Schulenburg of West Germany** has recently presented his credentials and he and his wife have already settled into Athens' diplomatic circles. The Ambassador has served his country in Helsinki, Caracas, and Madrid and has spent many years in Buenos Aires, but has arrived in Athens following a posting at the Foreign Ministry in Bonn where he was

most recently Chief of Protocol. The Ambassador and his wife have three adult children.

☆ A glimpse at the mail bag this month is quite daunting. With a helicopter or a special permit to ignore the until-8:00 pm traffic restrictions, it *might* have been possible to enjoy half of the events (many of them delightful; some of them spectacular) offered, but let me give you but a glimpse. Highlights of the past month at the **Hellenic-American Union** included the art exhibition of Florence Messenger-Stone opened jointly by the **American Ambassador, Mr Robert Keeley** and the **French Ambassador, Mr Francois Marcel Plaisant**; a night of music with musicians from the Ethnikon Odeon titled *Palamas' Poetry in Kalomiris' Music*; and a lecture by world-renowned Dr John Rassias on *The Rassias Method of Teaching Foreign Languages*.

Highlights from the **British Council** program included some marvelous films as well as a timely lecture sponsored by *The Sea Turtle Protection Society of Greece* with an eye

to progress made in Zakynthos; plus a watercolor exhibition by Lady Thomas, wife of the British Ambassador to Greece, titled *Greece through English Eyes*. What must have been a fascinating evening organized by the ladies of **Soroptomists International** at the Athenaeum Inter-Continental Hotel was an event called *Pottery without Frontiers* dedicated to the great poets L. Senghor and M. Lahbabi and featuring music with poems read by theatre artists from 12 countries in Africa.

☆ **The British Ladies Sewing Group** had their annual Coffee Morning and Sale of Work held at the British Embassy Residence in aid of many charities within Greece. An exhibition, with the gracious assistance of the artist, entitled *Paintings and Sculptures from the collection of Theodore Venetsanos* was organized to benefit the SOS Children's Village of Greece at the Cultural Center of the City of Athens.

The Annual Report by the Director of the **Swiss Archaeological School in Greece**, Pierre Ducrey and the Director of the Foundation responsible for the **Swiss School in Greece**, Hans-Peter Isler, with a reception following was hosted by the Swiss Ambassador and his wife.

The continuation of the 1987-88 Cultural Series of the **American College of Greece** featured a presentation of a Guitar Concert by E. Boudonis and E. Papandreou as well as the filmed opera *Othello* by Zefirelli. A unique conference was jointly sponsored by the **American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce** and the **International Herald Tribune** on *Greece in the 1990s - Investment and Trade with Greece* (about which you have read elsewhere this month). And, last but not least, a fine evening was organized by the **Japanese Embassy** in conjunction with the **Greek-Japanese Society** and the Japanese community at the Athens College



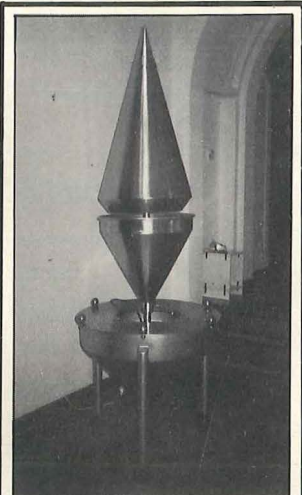
No sooner did the Athens gala ball season come to a close than the fashion showing season opened. All presented with great fanfare and having absolutely packed houses, the fashion extremes can be demonstrated by our two pictures. On the left, Kathy Heyndels appears with one of her models at the Grande Bretagne where her collections of Couture & Jewellery have become eagerly-awaited fixtures these past several years. Her chic, exotic, highly wearable, up-to-the minute exclusives were presented this year with the cooperation of Citibank and participation by Frangonard. On the right - contrasting wildly, but just as popular when presented by rugged outdoor individuals was the showing at the Athenaeum Inter-Continental of the Winter 1988/89 Collection of the Marlboro Classics for men.

Theatre featuring a language contest and cultural events including music, to give Athenians a special opportunity to become better acquainted with Japan and its arts. All of this and two Easters! Athenians certainly were not without something to do in April!

☆ **President Walter McCann of Athens College** and his wife, **Alba**, chose a very special way to celebrate the five-year anniversary of the unique theatre located on campus. By inviting many friends and supporters for a superb buffet luncheon, they were able not only to outline some of the history of the theatre, but to provide details regarding current and planned presentations. The use of the theatre in the Athenian community continues to increase and certainly the diversity of the programs presented grows from strength to strength. It is, in a way, just like the Psychico underpass - what in the world did we do without it?

☆ In closing, remember your four-legged friends and show

up for the annual **Spring Book & Used Clothes Sale of the Hellenic Animal Welfare Society**. Note: This year it will be held at ACS, Ag Paraskevi 129 in Halandri, beginning on Saturday 7 May, at 10:00 am and continuing on Sunday. Don't miss it! □



Such delightful shapes greeted visitors to the DESTE Foundation for Contemporary Art exhibition at the Cultural Center of Cyprus recently. Our photo shows one of the 'sculptures' - and it was a fountain yet! One of the attendants would obligingly turn on the jets that circulated the water in this particular instance, or switch on the electricity for creating impulses for another of the displays. Squares receded into the distance; lines seemed to converge; colors were vibrant and fun. We will all become converts if contemporary artists continue to dream up these modern-technology art forms.



The international Section of the Lyceum of Greek Women continues to hold very popular events. A recent tea featured a film presented by the Tourism Organization of Greece that made a tour of the Greek Islands immediately tempting for each of those present. Caught enjoying the occasion (from left) are Kiki Velissariou, current President of the Women's International Club, Adelina Harding-Jones and her friend from England, and Michiko Kenebuchi whose 'Michiko's' Japanese Restaurant in the Plaka provides such a delightful culinary change.

Θάλασσα & Γιώτικη

Για τη θάλασσα ΕΝΑ είναι το περιοδικό

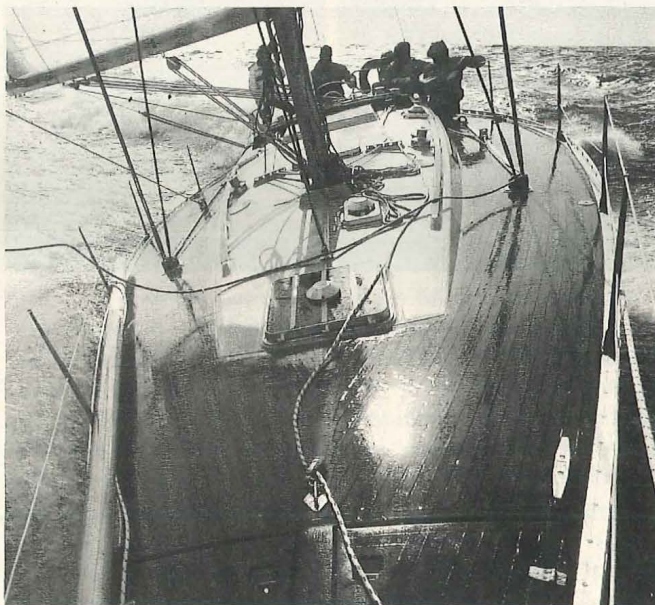
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THE ATHENIAN guide

Where to go... what to do

focus • music • dance • drama • museums • sites • tourist tips • sports • matter of taste • restaurants and night

focus

art

Scotty Mitchell's landscapes have the quality of portraits; her subtle objectivity, respect and love for nature, natural approach, and her search for visual truth is rare in painting today. She continues a long tradition that includes the early Corot, Monet, and the Barbizon School. Scotty settled on Crete in 1976 having studied painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in

Association. She is exhibiting her work at Ora Gallery until May 6, while simultaneously exhibiting at the Tate Gallery in London. She works in acrylics and oils and prefers to work on paper rather than on wood or oilcloth. Her work incorporates solid and semi-transparent shapes, sometimes using perspective and sometimes a variety of optical angles.

Art critic Clair Etcherelli describes **Tita Kriezi's** work in vivid terms: "...juicy grapes,

caricatures to magazines, and creating woodblock prints. He became one of the founders of Greek engraving and in 1958 he took up a professorship at the School of Fine Arts in Athens. Sixty of his works - tempera, woodcuts, sketches, etc - covering 40 creative years (1914-1954), will be exhibited at the Iakynthos Gallery until May 13. Some of his works are displayed at the Cabinet des Estampes in Paris, the National Gallery and the

Dimotiki Pinakothiki in Athens.

An exhibition by **Rania Kapeliari** and **Antonis Apergis** will take place at Epoches Gallery May 9 until May 31. Both artists work in collage. In Apergis' work, the glued paper incorporates color, resulting in a form of fresco. In Kaperliaris' work, the element of collage is as dynamic as her colors. Apergis studied painting and engraving at the School of Fine Arts in Athens; at the Ecole des



Eko Tokiwa, American Community Schools

Rome, and the New York Studio School. She travels around Crete with her easel and paints the Cretan landscape al fresco. Her exhibition at Jill Yakas Gallery, May 23 through June 11, will include paintings of the Cretan landscape, as well as interior studies.

Zoe Zengeli is a well-known painter in London, where she studied painting and scenography and where she lives permanently. She has taught 'color' for the last six years at the London Architectural

transparent reflections on glass, amber clusters, shades of blue, the ivory light, blend and effect a painting with a strong structure and, at the same time, great delicacy." But, most important, the artist invites us to delve into her painting and find the source of her colors and symbols. Kriezi lives and works in Paris. Her exhibition will take place at Gallery 3 until May 12.

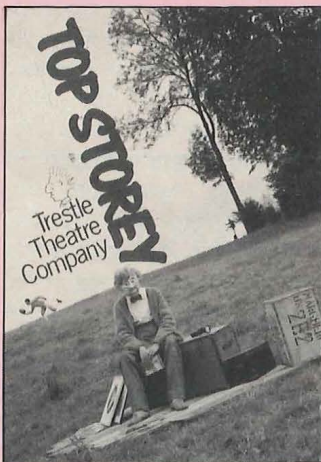
Efthimis Papadimitriou (1895-1958) started his career by contributing sketches and



Scotty Kavadatou-Mitchell, Jill Yakas Gallery



Sally Brown and Thalia Bisticas in "I am a Camera" by the Players



Trestle Theatre Company, 'Top Storey'

Beaux Arts in Paris he studied mosaics and frescoes. Kapeliaris, born in 1960, studied both at the School of Fine Arts in Paris and at the Archaeological School of the University of Cairo. Both artists live in Athens and teach at the TEI.

exhibitions

Art work, paintings and photographs by students of the **American Community School**, will be exhibited for the first time under the auspices of US Ambassador Robert Keeley. The exhibition will take place at the Hellenic-American Union from May 9 through May 20. *Electra* '88 is the title of an exhibition by the famous sculptor, **Takis**, at Stavros Mihaliaras Art Center. The artist has recreated the in-

terior and exterior of the building where his work will be exhibited. The focal point of his presentation is the group of sculptures from the series 'Electra', seven signs and two large bronze spheres exhibited outside, and smaller signs, musical objects, etc, inside. On May 16 and 17 actress Antigone Amanitou will recite a monologue from *Iokasta* written and directed



From Takis' Exhibition, Stavros Mihaliaras Art Center

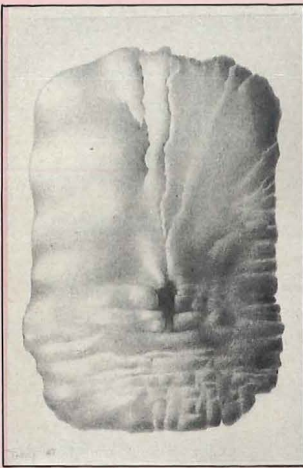


E Papadimitriou, *Iakinthos*

by Takis and accompanied by his music. An album will also be displayed with texts by art critics Dora Iliopoulou Rogan and Alain Jouffroy, and many photographs of Takis' sculptures. The exhibition will last until June 25 at Irodotou 22, Kolonaki, tel 721-0689.

Design - Objects - May '88 is an exhibition organized by Popi Zervopoulou-Krouska at the 'Popi K.' Center, Ploutarchou 18. This is the second time that design, furniture and 'the object' are the theme of an exhibition held at 'Popi K.'. The main element in this exhibition is the presence of architecture in the creation of useful objects. The exhibition will begin May 2 and end May 21.

Stephen Taylor Woodrow is a performance artist who has presented work all over Britain and Europe. His recent project, *The Living Paintings*, broke all British attendance records for an art performance for over a decade. *The Living Paintings* appeared at the New



F Fessas, *Gallery Synchronis Technis*

Museum of Contemporary Art in New York and were featured on television and in the press. The exhibition will present three men 'hung' in special harnesses against large framed reliefs on the gallery walls for five hours daily. Their clothes and skin will be completely covered with acrylic paint and make-up and they will wear customized contact lenses of the type used for special effects in films. As art objects, the paintings cannot 'speak', but they interact with the audience in non-verbal ways. *The Living Paintings* will be displayed at the British Council from May 9 to May 13.

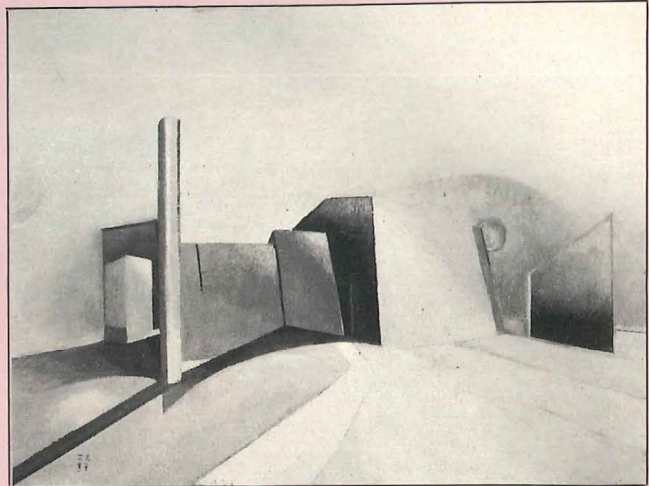
theatre

La Robe Mauve de Valentine is a play by Françoise Sagan performed by La Compagnie de la Chouette at the French Institute on May 12 and 13 at 8:30 pm. "Who is hiding behind the purple dress?" is the theme of the play. Valentine, abandoned by her husband, finds refuge in her cousin's house. Is she an enchanting Valentine to whom Serge will submit? The resolution of this question is the moving force of this lively comedy. **The Players** will perform *I am a Camera* June 2 - 5 at the Aplo Theatre on Harilaou Trikoupi (near the Inter-Continental Hotel). This play by John van Druten, based on the book, *Goodbye to Berlin*, by Christopher Isherwood, inspired the famous

musical "Cabaret". Sally Brown stars as the outrageous Sally Bowles and Stewart Carolan as young Isherwood. Thalia Bisticas portrays the bright but naive Natalia, while Kreg Schmidt plays the suave but tormented Fritz. Vivienne Glover sparkles as the irrepressible German landlady. Jennifer Couroucli portrays Sally's conservative mother, while Wim Hobé plays Clive, the globe-trotting millionaire. According to director Kristina Nordstrom, *I am a Camera* should appeal to Athens' English-speaking community because it por-



G Parmenidis, 'Popi K.'



Zoe Zengeli, *Ora*

trays expatriates living in Berlin in 1930. "Innocents from abroad, they become swept up in the social and political events of their host country." Curtain time is 8:00 pm. For information and reservations call 653-3939 or 644-1590.

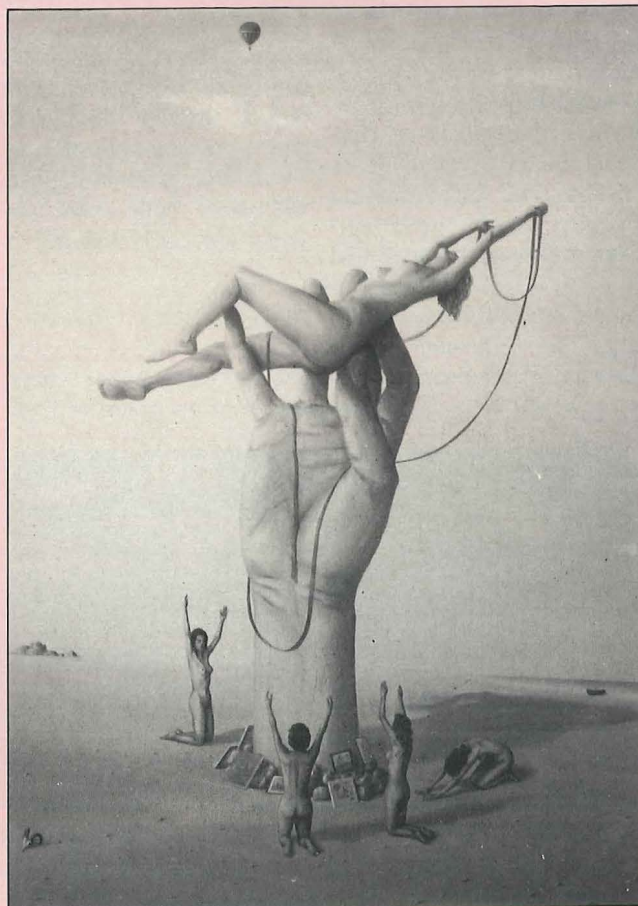
Over the past six years **Trestle Theatre Company** has developed its own original style of popular mime and mask theatre, generating praise from critics and public alike, establishing Trestle as Bri-

tain's leading mask theatre company. Trestle has toured throughout Britain, and conducted successful tours to Europe, Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand. They have made numerous appearances on local and national television in Britain and abroad. In the latest production, *Top Storey*, elements of tragedy and comedy merge when an old man's peaceful retirement is shattered by the return of his brother to the family home after 40 years, reviving boyhood memories and the buried emotions of a tragic secret they once shared. Trestle will perform in Athens, under the auspices of the British Council and the Ministry of Culture, at the Amphitheatre, Adranou 111, Plaka, on May 6, 7 and 8 at 8:30 pm.

films

Radio-On (1979) will be screened on Tuesday, May 3, at 8 pm at the British Council. Robert, a disc jockey, attempts to come to terms with his brother's death as he travels from London to Bristol. The film stars David Beams, Lisa Krenzer, Sandy Ratcliff and Sting. It was written and directed by Christopher Petit; produced by Keith Griffiths.

The screenplay of **Shadow Line** (1976) was written by Andrezej Wajda and Boleslaw Susik, based on Joseph Conrad's autobiographical



Michalis Avramidis, *Tholos*



Manolis Kaliyiannis, *Ora*



Rania Kapeliari, *Epoches*

story about a captain who is offered the command of the sailing ship *Otago* on a bizarre voyage from Bangkok to Singapore. The cast includes Marek Kondrat, Graham Lines and Tom Wilkinson. The film, directed by Andrzej Wajda and Michael Darlow and produced by Jolyon Wimhurst and Barbara Pec-Slesicka, will be shown at the British Council on May 5 at 8 pm.

lectures

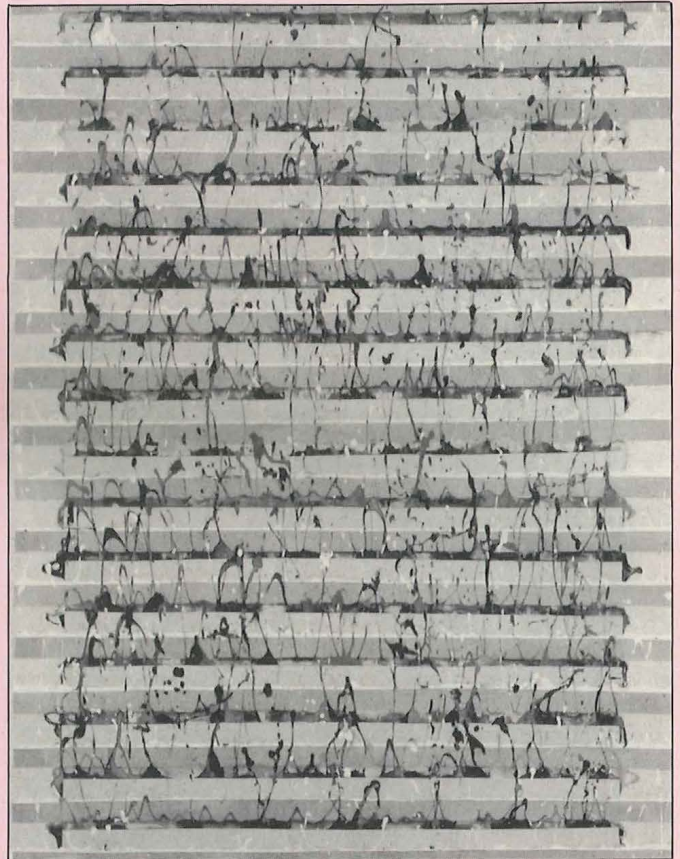
Wolfgang Rim, the most famous of the new generation of German composers, will speak about his work for the first time in Athens at the Goethe Institute on May 23 at 8:30 pm. His works include compositions for orchestra, chamber music, pieces for soloists, choruses, and oper-

as, such as *Hamletmaschine*, which was originally performed in 1987 by the Berlin Philharmonic.

The American College of Southeastern Europe, the governing body of **Southeastern College**, has organized a lecture titled *The Precise Order of the Labors of Hercules and Their Relation to the Ancient Greek Calendar*. This lecture reviews the literature and establishes the number and the sequence of the exploits which constitute an ancient calendar. (A book documenting the true sequence of the exploits of Hercules based on ancient Greek writings and archaeological evidence is also proposed.) The lecture will be presented by Dr D Anagnostopoulos at Southeastern College, Building C, 11 Deligianni Street, Kifissia, on Wednesday, May 4, at 8:30 pm.



Tita Kriezi, *Gallery 3*



Aris Koutroulis, *Argo*

courses

A **Video Course**, consisting of six lessons over a three-week period, will begin on June 1 at the YWCA (XEN). This course will cover video techniques through discussion, pair work and role playing. The course, given in English, will cover both audio and visual aspects of video.

notes

San Francisco State University, in cooperation with the



Stephen Taylor Woodrow, British Council

Cycladic Museum and **The Athens Centre**, invites students, teachers, and all those interested in the Mediterranean world to join them in a rediscovery of ancient Greek civilizations on-site on trips to *Crete and the Cycladic Islands* from June 1- 23. For more information write to The Athens Centre, 48 Archimideous Street, Athens 11636, Greece, or Dr Barbara McLaughlin, Classics Dept, San Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway Avenue, San Francisco, Calif, 94132.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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29	30	31				

NAME DAYS IN MAY

In traditional Greek circles one's name day (the feast day of the saint whose name one bears) is more significant than one's birthday: an open house policy is adopted and refreshments are served to well-wishers who stop by with gifts and the traditional greeting of *chronia polla* (many happy returns).

May 5	Irene, Irini, Rena
May 21	Constantine, Kostas, Dino Helen, Eleni, Nitsa, Elaine

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 8	Mother's Day (US, Canada)
May 23	Victoria Day (Canada)
May 30	Memorial Day (US)

GALLERIES

AITHOUSA TECHNIS IAKINTHOS, Zirini 23, Kifissia, tel 801-1730. Paintings and engravings by Efthimis Papadimitriou (1895-1958), till May 13. *See Focus*.

AITHOUSA TECHNIS PSYCHIKOU, Vas Pavlou 30, tel 671-7266. Maria Vassilaki will exhibit her work until May 6.

ARGO, Merlin 8 tel 362-2662. An exhibition by Aris Koutroulis till May 7.

ATHENAEUM ART GALLERY, Syngrou 89-93, tel 902-3666. A group exhibition by Polish artists until mid May.

ANTINOR, Antinoros 17, tel 729-0697. Haralambos Sourapas will exhibit his work from May 2 through May 14, followed by a presentation of a photography album by Costas Vitis from May 16 through May 19. Works by Manolis Markantonakis from May 23 until June 4.

BERNIER GALLERY, Marasli 51, tel 723-5657. An exhibition by Christina Inglesias, a young Spanish sculptress, until May 13. Installations by young Spanish sculptor Juan Munos from May 16 through June 24.

DADA, Niridon 6 & Pratinou, tel 722-2929. Dimitris Tiniakos will exhibit his work starting May 4 through May 23. Paintings and collages by Sandy Nikolareta from May 25 until June 6.

EPIPEDA, Xanthippou 11, tel 721-4644. Works by Constantine Polivta and Dina Delaporta from May 23 through June 8.

EPOCHES, Kifissias 263, tel 808-3645. An exhibition by Eleni Bountali until May 4, followed by an exhibition of works by Antonis Apergis and Rania Kapeliari from May 9 through May 31. *See Focus*.

GALLERY SYNCHRONIS TECHNIS, Mitseon 5-7, tel 325-4335. F Fessas will exhibit his work until May 7.

GALLERY 3, Fokilidou 3, tel 362-8230. Tita Kriezis will exhibit her work till May 12. *See Focus*.

JILL YAKAS GALLERY, Spartis 16, tel 801- 2773. An exhibition by Scotty Kavadatou-Mitchel starting May 23 through June 11.

KREONIDIS, Iperidou 7, tel 322-4261. Dimitris Nikolaidis and Christos Dimitriou until May 4, followed by an exhibition by Yiorgos Th Georgiadis and Dimitris Iliopoulos from May 5 through May 21.

MEDUSA, Xenokratous 7, tel 724-4552. Paintings and constructions by Vali Nomidou until May 7.

NEES MORPHES, Valaoritou 9A, tel 361-6165. An exhibition by Dimitris Perdikiadis till May 4. Despo Mangoni will exhibit her work from May 5 to May 21, followed by an exhibition by Yiannis Zikas from May 23 until June 8.

ORA, Xenofondos 7, tel 323-0698. Zoe Zegeli will exhibit her work till May 6. *See Focus*; works by Manolis Kallyianis will be exhibited the same dates.

SKOUFA, Skoufa 4, tel 360-3541. An exhibition by Fotis Zachariou until May 10.

THOLOS, Filellinon 20, tel 323-7950. Michalis Avramidis will exhibit his work from May 9 through May 26.

ZALOKOSTA 7, Zalokosta 7, tel 361-2277. Works by Alike Theodosi will be exhibited until May 6.

ZYGOS, Iofondos 33, tel 722-9219. Landscapes and icons by Costas Spyropoulos and traditional yards by Thora Potiri from May 3 until May 17.

SCREENINGS

French Institute

Films for young people

ZERO DE CONDUITE, by J Vigo will be shown May 6 at 6 pm.

LES MAITRES DU TEMPS, will be screened May 13 at 6 pm.

The actor Jacques Perrin will present four films in which he either acts, or has directed or produced.

LES QUARANTIEMES RUGISSANTS, by Christian de Challes will be shown May 19 at 6 pm. At 8 pm a meeting with actor Jacques Perrin is scheduled.

LE LIBAN, PAYS DU MIEL ET DE L'ENCENS, by Maroun Bagdadi, May 19 at 9 pm.

SECTION SPECIAL, by Costas Gavras will be screened on May 20 at 6 pm.

"Z", by Costas Gavras, May 20 at 8:30 pm.

British Council[QL

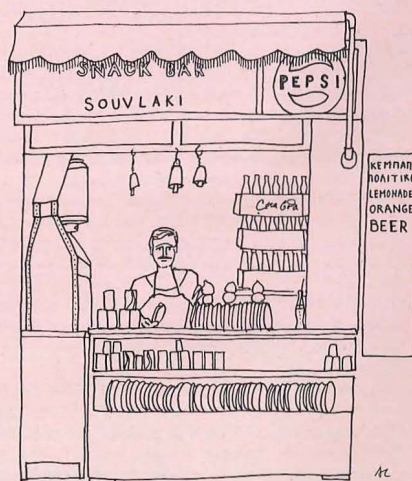
RADIO ON (1979) by Christopher Petit starring Lisa Krenzer, Sandy Ratcliff and Sting, at the British Council, May 3 at 8 pm. *See Focus*.

SHADOW LINE directed by Andrezej Wajda - the cast includes Marek Kondrat, Graham Lines and Tom Wilkinson - at the British Council May 5 at 8 pm. *See Focus*.

LECTURES

THE MARCH OF A TRANSLATRESS is the theme of a lecture by George Sarri, writer and translator, at the French Institute on May 3 at 8:30 pm.

THE PRECISE ORDER OF THE LABORS OF HERCULES AND THEIR RELATION TO THE ANCIENT GREEK CALENDAR is the subject of a lecture by Dr D



Anagnostopoulos at Southeastern College, Bldg C, De-
liigianni 11, Kifissia, May 4 at 8:30 pm. *See Focus*.

TRUTH AND ROMANCE by writer Pierre Mertens at the French Institute May 10 at 8:30 pm.

THE EAR AND COMMUNICATION by Alfred Tomatis at the French Institute May 25 at 8:30 pm.

NARCISSISM AND TRIBALISM a lecture by Professor Michel Maffessoli at the French Institute, May 31.

EDUCATION AND THE USE OF COMPUTERS, a seminar organized by the Athens College Teachers' Association at the Athens College Theatre May 7 and 8 from 9 am to 3 pm.

INDULGENT TECHNOLOGY a seminar at the Goethe Institute from May 16 through May 18 from 6 to 10 pm.

WOLFGANG RIM the famous German composer will talk

about his work at the Goethe Institute on May 23 at 8:30 pm. *See Focus*.

BIOS IN THE NEXT MILLENIUM is the theme of a lecture by the distinguished politician, Lord Ennals, under the auspices of the Biopolitics International Organisation, at the British Council on May 13 at 8 pm.

EXHIBITIONS

PAINTING EXHIBITION Paintings from the National Gallery collection, at the Ethniki Pinakothiki until the beginning of May.

SCULPTURE EXHIBITION by Thodoros till May 13, at the French Institute.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION by Marina Agathou, at the French Institute until May 13.

GREEK AND ENGLISH LANDSCAPES by Peter Crac-knell, at the British Council until May 6.

LIVING PAINTINGS by Stephen Taylor Woodrow at the British Council starting May 9 through May 13. *See Focus*.

"ELECTRA 88" is the title of an exhibition by famous sculptor Takis at the Stavros Mihalarias Art Center until June 25. *See Focus*.

DESIGN - OBJECTS - MAY 88 is an exhibition at "Popi K.", Ploutarchou 18, Kolonaki, from May 2 until May 21. *See Focus*.

SOFIA VEMBO Ten years after her death, an exhibition including photographs, recordings and costumes will be held at the Pnevmatiko Kentro, Akadimias 50, until May 2.

EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS by Mina Papatheodorou-Valirakis and Michael Veloudios, at the Athens College Theatre till May 11.

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL STUDENTS will present their art work in an exhibition at the Hellenic American Union starting May 9 through May 20. *See Focus*.

THOMAS MILLER a German artist who has lived in Athens since 1984 will present his recent work at the Goethe Institute from May 10 through May 31.

MUSIC, DANCE, THEATRE

ENSEMBLE 13 will give a concert of works by Wolfgang Rim at the Pallas Theatre sponsored by the Goethe Institute, May 24 at 8:30 pm.

CAMERATA HELLENICA conducted by Adrian Sunshine will perform at the Athens College Theatre on May 8 at 9 pm.

BILLY EIDI the pianist will give a concert of works by Schumann, Balakirev, Chopin and Poulenc at the Athens College Theatre, May 24 at 9 pm.

A PASTICHE OF BROADWAY AND HOLLYWOOD MUSIC by Ray Cook performed in English by the Athens College Student Theatre Club at the Athens College Theatre, May 14 at 8:30 pm.

JAZZ CONCERT by Henri Texier Quartet at the French Institute on May 5 at 8:30 pm.

PIANO RECITAL by Maria Coussoula at the French Institute, May 11 at 8:30 pm.

LA ROBE MAUVE DE VALENTINE a play by Francoise Sagan will be performed by the "Chouette Compagnie", at the French Institute, May 12 and 13 at 8:30 pm. *See Focus*.

SUMMER FIEST by Klaus Hoffmann, a singer and actor from Berlin, at the Goethe Institute, May 28 at 8:30 pm.

TRESTLE THEATRE COMPANY, the leading English mask theatre in their new production "Top Storey", will be presented, in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and the British Council, at the Amphi-Theatro, May 6, 7, and 8 at 8:30 pm. *See Focus*.

JOHN CLEGG the pianist will give a recital of works by Beethoven, Schumann, Lennox Berkeley, Debussy and Albeniz, at the British Council, May 9 at 8 pm.

PIANO RECITAL by Canadian pianist Diane Viau at the British Council on May 16 at 8 pm.

I AM A CAMERA, a play by John van Druten will be performed by the Players at the Aplo Theatro, June 2 to 5. *See Focus*.

SPRING COURSES

ATHENS CENTRE, 48 Archimideou Street, tel 701-5242, offers Greek lessons. Immersion three-week courses start May 16; advanced proficiency four-week courses start May 30.

MODERN GREEK COURSES covering all basic structures plus an adequate vocabulary for reading simple texts, 25 meetings 50 hours, start May 3 at the YWCA (XEN), Amerikis 11. For more information call 362-4291/3 or 362-6180.

TAVERNAS AND RESTAURANTS

CENTRAL

CORFU Kriezotou 6 (near King's Palace Hotel), tel 361-3011. Menu includes popular standbys of Greek cuisine as well as a few variations from Corfu. Daily noon-1 am.

DELPHI Nikis 13, tel 323-4869. Excellent lunchtime spot, very good food, reasonable prices 11 am-11 pm.

DIONYSOS across from the Acropolis, tel 923-3182; 923-1936. Complete restaurant and pastry shop. The house specialties are charcoal-broiled shrimp, fillet of sole, baby lamb and veal mignonettes in oregano sauce.
Note: Dionysos-Zonars at the beginning of Panepistimiou St, near Syntagma Sq, also has complete restaurant service. Tel 323-0336. A third Dionysos is on Lycabettus Hill.

DRUGSTORE Stoa Korai, tel 322-6464; 322-1890. A multi-purpose restaurant. Open 8 am-2 am, except Sundays.

EVERYDAY Stadiou 4 and Voukourestiou corner, tel 323-9422. Spacious and central, serving moussaka, grills and salads. Also convenient for coffee, croissants, pastries and ice cream. Open 7 am-2 am. (Restaurant-cafeteria, pastry shop).

FLOKA Leoforos Kifissias 118, tel 691-4001. A complete restaurant, pastry shop and catering service. Delicious club sandwiches and ice cream pies ("Black Venus", etc.).

IDEAL Panepistimiou Ave 46, tel 361-4604; 361-3596. "The Restaurant of Athens" founded in 1922. Pleasant atmosphere in a succession of well-decorated rooms, discreet stereo music, attentive service, extensive menu. Open for lunch at noon. Ideal for late diners. Don't let the unobtrusive entrance put you off.

KENTRIKON Kolokotroni 3, in arcade next to the Athenæe Palace Hotel, tel 323-2482. Full taverna fare including beef sofrito, beef in earthenware soup.

KOSTOYIANNIS Zaimi 37 (Pedion Areos), Exarchia, tel 821-2496. Large selection of appetizers. Main dishes are among others, Rabbit Stifado (stew with onions), souvlaki with bacon and quail. Closed Sunday.

LENGO Nikis 29, tel 323-1127. Charming bistro restaurant with good Greek cuisine; a little expensive. Open daily 12 pm-1 am.

NO NAME Bouzougou & Moustoxidi 20, tel 642-0306. Piano Bar and restaurant. International cuisine with full cocktail bar. Open daily except Sunday. Lunch 12 noon to 5 pm. Dinner 8 pm- 5 am.

THE THREE BROTHERS Elpidos 7, Victoria Sq, 822-9322; 883-1928. Open after 8 pm. Closed Sundays. Specialties include swordfish souvlaki, shrimp with bacon, shrimp salad, eggplant with cheese in tomato sauce. Extensive menu.

SINTRIVANI Filellinon 5, near Syntagma Sq, tel 323-8862. Greek cuisine, extensive variety of dishes including souvlaki and moussaka (specialties). This restaurant also serves fresh fish.

HILTON/US EMBASSY AREA

BALTHAZAR Tsoha 27 and Vournazou, tel 644-1215. Renovated mansion not far from the US Embassy. Restaurant and attractive bar. Menu includes scallopine with cream, spaghetti and a different curry daily. Fresh salads.

CACTUS 30 Papadiamantopoulou, (behind the Hilton Hotel). Wide selection of *mezes*, traditional appetizers and good Greek cuisine. Also available is a variety of charcoal grills. Very reasonable prices. Open for lunch 12:30-3:30 pm and dinner 8:00 pm-2:00 am.

FATSIOS Efroniou 5, Pangrati (south of the Hilton), tel 721-7421. Good selection of well-prepared Greek and Oriental specialties. Daily from 12-5 pm.

LE BISTRO Holiday Inn Hotel, Mihalakopoulou 50, Ilissia, tel 724-8322. French and Greek cuisine. Piano.

MIKE'S SALOON Vas Alexandrou 5-7 (between the Hilton and Caravel Hotel), tel 729-1689. Bar, snacks and meals. Daily 12 pm-2 am and Sundays from 6 pm-2 am.

OTHELLO'S 45 Mihalakopoulou, Ilissia, tel 729-1481. Specialty: Beef Stroganoff. Open daily from 12 pm-2 am. Closed Sunday.

PAPAKIA Iridanou 5 (behind the Hilton), tel 721-2421. The specialty, as the name suggests, is duck (steamed in cream sauce). Other entrées are lasagna, chicken Kiev, vegetable "pies" and daily specials. Daily from 8 pm-2 am.

ROUMELI Panormou 107, Ambelokipi (across the park from the Apollon Towers), tel 692-2852. At lunchtime a wide selection of Greek dishes; evening specialties are charcoal broils. Daily from 12 pm until late. Bakaliaros, bifteki special, snails, baked fish (gavros).

THE PLOUGHMAN Iridanou 26, Ilissia (near the Holiday Inn), tel 721-0244. Dartboard, English cuisine, and reasonable prices. Open daily from 12 pm-2 am; kitchen closed

on Sundays.

TABULA Pondou 40, (parallel to Mihalakopoulou, behind the Riva Hotel), tel 779-3072. A varied menu of Greek and international specialties plus a well stocked bar. Fresh fish nightly. Open from 9 pm-1 am. Closed Sundays.

PLAKA

ANGELOS' CORNER 17 Syngrou Ave, near Temple of Zeus. Cosy nook with piano. Excellent Greek and French cuisine. Seats 50 max. Reservations necessary. Tel 922-9773/7417. Serves dinner from 6 pm to midnight.

BAKALIARAKIA (TA) Kydathinaion 41, tel 322-5048. Basement taverna specializing in salt cod in batter usually served with garlic sauce. Souvlaki and delicious salads.

DAMIGOS where Kydathinaion meets Adrianou, basement taverna offering quality meat, fresh vegetables, specialty: bakaliaro and skordalia. Extremely reasonable; friendly service.

FIVE BROTHERS Aeolou St off the square behind the Library of Hadrian. Open daily from 8 am-1 am.

HERMION cafe and restaurant in a little alley off Kapnikareas (near the Adrianou St cafeteria square). Delightful spot for Sunday lunch with exquisite Greek cuisine (a light touch with the olive oil), friendly service. Open daily from 8 pm-midnight.

MILTONS Adrianou 19, Plaka, tel 324-9129. Charming island atmosphere. Large steaks, also fresh fish. Open lunchtime, perfect for business lunches and evenings. Reservations suggested.

PICCOLINO, 26 Sotiros Str, opposite the church. Best pizza in town plus many other Italian specialties including grilled prawns with bacon, scaloppine; all kinds of pasta. Also fresh grilled fish. The host keeps serving you ouzo on the house long after you've become a regular. Open daily 9 am - 3 am. Tel 324-9745.

PSARRA Erotokritou and Erechtheos Sts, tel 325-0285. An old favorite, great for Sunday lunch, swordfish souvlaki, taverna fare; special spot for locals and residents. Open from 12-5 pm and 7 pm-2 am daily.

THE CELLAR Kydathinaion and the corner of Moni Asteriou. Quality taverna fare, good service and extremely reasonable prices bring Athenians from all over the city to this basement taverna; not unusual to see a Kolonaki couple in lavish evening wear take their place at one of the crowded paper-covered tables; some choice island wines besides retsina. Open from 8 pm-2 am daily.

The Stage Coach

Steaks 'n Stocks

Busy businessmen can now keep abreast of world stock prices while simultaneously savoring a superb *Stage Coach* steak.

A REUTERS video news service has been introduced at the highly regarded *Stage Coach*, continually transmitting world and financial news, sports, weather, gold-silver quotes and even a daily horoscope.

The REUTERS NEWS WATCH is another innovative effort (for Athens, a first) to enhance the already solid reputation of the *Stage Coach* which has been operating for more than 16 years.

Fresh fish and lobster have been added to the perennially popular meat choices of prime rib, T-bone, N.Y. sirloin and bon file.

Lunch features include 10 varieties of hamburger and an assortment of deli-sized sandwiches.

Voukourestiou 14
(Near Syntagma Square)
Tel: 363-5145
363-2966



CHINA restaurant

Superb Chinese cooking in a luxurious Oriental atmosphere
Open 12 to 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 to 1 a.m.

72 EFRONIOU STREET, ILISSIA TEL: 723-3200, 724-5746
(Between Caravel Hotel & University Campus)



English chef prepares such specialties as rainbow trout, homemade steak and kidney pies and delicious filet steaks. From Nov. 1 we are open again for our famous roast. Sunday lunches 1-4 p.m. We will cater for any business lunches or small receptions. Open Christmas Day, reservations only.

33 Prigipos Petrou, Glyfada
For reservations call: 896-2710



PONDEROSA

Restaurant-Charcoal Grill Steak House

American-style steakhouse
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near Plateia Kifissias)

7 days per week 6 - 2
Specialists in bon fillet,
Pepper steak, T-Bone ribsteak.

Now we have barbecue spareribs

Reservations tel: 801-4493, 982-4136

DIOSCURI restaurant



Charcoal grill - Fish
Cooked specialties

DIMITRIOU VASSILIOU 16 - N. PSYCHIKO
TEL. 6713.997 - SUNDAYS OFF



restaurants and night life

TI PRASINO, Plateia Drosopoulou, Filothei, tel 681-5158. The taverna with (perhaps) the fastest service in Athens! The menu includes grills (sausages, chops, souvlaki and hamburger steak) and delicious deep fried meatballs. Salads. The meat is all top quality. Lunch from 12-4:30 pm, and dinner from 7:30 pm-midnight.

TO SPITI, Frankoploulos 56, Nea Psychiko, tel 672-1757. Private home converted into cozy taverna. Menu offers grills, meatballs, pork in wine sauce with cheese, fava, salads, retsina.

PALEO FALIRON/ALIMOS

CAMINO, Pizzeria-trattoria, Posidonos 54, Paleo Faliron, tel 982-9647. Piquant pastas, pizzas and choice cuts of meat are special; draft Heineken and Santorini bottled "house wines". Not as pricey as neighboring Italian restaurants.

FONDANINA, Vas Georgiou 31, tel 983-0738. Specialties include stuffed "Pizza Calzone", spaghetti carbonara, rigatoni with four cheeses, saltimbacca à la Romano, fileto di diavolo, Italian and Capriccio salads, chocolate mousse, creme caramel and "cake of the day".

GASKON TOMA, 20 Posidonos, Paleo Faliron, tel 982-1114. Open every evening. Appetizers, short orders, plaki (fish and vegetables cooked in wine). Ouzo and wine free.

KAPRI, Posidonos, Paleo Faliron, tel 981-6379. Open for lunch and dinner, 12-4:30 pm and 7:30 pm-1 am.

MOURIA, 101 Ahileos, Paleo Faliron, tel 981-3347. Specialty: squab in season. Retsina from the barrel.

PAPAGALO, Leoforos Posidonos 73, Eden, tel 983-3728. Menu which will accommodate all moods and tastes. Snack and salad bars, charcoal grills, ice cream and crêpes.

PANDELIS, 96 Naiadon, Pal Faliron, tel 982-5512. Constantinopolitan cuisine, with various specialties. Daily from 12 pm-2 am and Sunday from 12 pm-5 pm.

PANORAI, Seirnon/Tersiphoris Sts, Pal Faliron, tel 981-3792. On Sundays open only for lunch. Short orders for fish and meat; shrimp.

SEIRINES, 76 Seirnon, Pal Faliron, tel 981-1427. On Sundays also open for lunch. Short orders, rabbit in red wine, *bakaliaros* (cod).

SIXTIES, Leof Posidonos 42, tel 981-9355. Elegant restaurant with nouvelle cuisine, bar and live music.

STA KAVOURAKIA, 17 Vas Georgiou, Kalamaki, tel 981-0093. Open only at night 6 pm-2 am. Crabs *kavouria*, charcoal-broiled octopus, various fish.

PIRAEUS

DOGA, 45 Deliyiorgi, Evangelistria, tel 411-2149. Specialties: snails, kebabs, (*kokkoretsi*), pureed yellow peas with onions (*fava*).

GARTH'S, Akti Tr Moutsopoulou 36, Pasalimani, Pireaus, tel 452-6420. Open Tuesday-Sunday, 8 pm-1 am; Friday lunchtime 12-5 pm. Closed Monday.

KALYVA, Vas Pavlou 60, tel 412-2149. Colorful cartoon murals, dining balcony overlooking the sea and Microlimano; established reputation for excellent quality of their meats. Daily from 8 pm-2 am.

LANDFALL CLUB, Makriyianni 3, Zea Marina, tel 452-5074. Seafood and Greek cuisine.

VASILENA, Etolikou 72, tel 461-2457. A long-established taverna situated in a renovated grocery store. The owner provides a parade of 16 different dishes (in the order that he chooses) for a fixed price. Soup is usually served last! Be sure to have an empty stomach to do honor to this delicious food.

VLAHOS, 28 Koletty, Freates, tel 451-3432. *Bakaliaros*, *bifteki* done over charcoal; start with retsina. Known as The Garage locally for its big front doors opening onto a large courtyard. Open daily from 8 pm-2 am.

ZILLER'S, Akti Koundouriotou 1, tel 411-2013. Tastefully decorated and popular with a floor-to-ceiling wall of potables and a complete and reasonably-priced menu. Overlooks the sea and Votsalaki Beach. Daily from 12 pm-2 am.

GLYFADA/VOULIAGMENI SEASIDE

ANDONIS, 22 Armenidos, Glyfada, tel 894-7423. Open for lunch and dinner. Shrimp ragout, charcoal grilled octopus.

BARBA PETROS, 26 N Zerva, Glyfada (Ag Konstantinos), tel 891-4937. On Sundays also open for lunch. Special cheese pies, kid, chicken, short orders.

CHURRASCO, 16 Pandoras St, Glyfada. Slick dining, outdoor terrace and bar; specialty: steak tartare, fixed at table. Elaborate; fairly expensive; elite Athenian crowd.

DOVINOS, 2 Plateia Fleming, Glyfada, tel 894-4249. Various fish dishes, baked and grilled.

EL GRECO, Cnr Kyprou & Feves Sts, Glyfada, tel 899-4249. Various fish dishes, baked and grilled.

EVOI EVAN, behind the Zeus boat factory, Ano Glyfada, tel 893-2689. International cuisine. Music.



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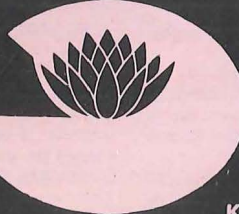
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