

September 1991

475 drs

# THE ATHENIAN

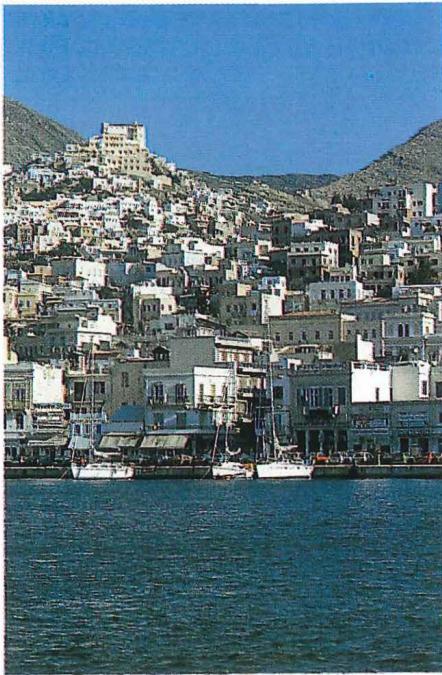
Greece's English Language Monthly



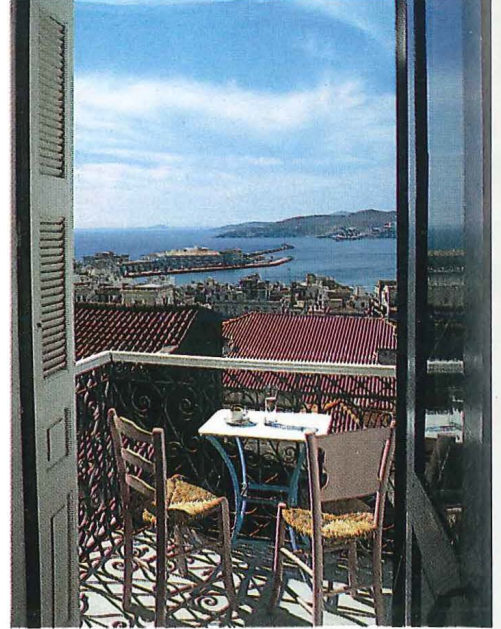
**CYPRUS: BREAKTHROUGH OF BREAK-UP?  
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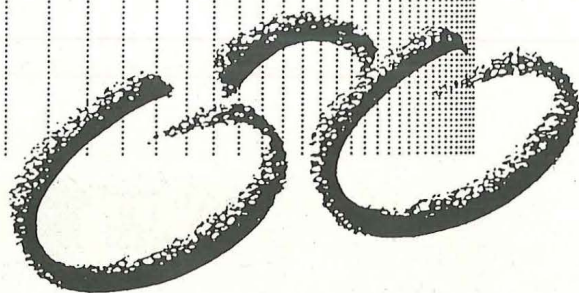
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## THE ATHENIAN

Greece's English Language Monthly  
Founded in 1974

Vol. XIX No. 215 September 1991

Owned and published by The Athenian  
Press Ltd

Peta 4, 105 58 Athens, Greece  
Tel 322-2802 Fax 322-3052

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Phototypeset by  
FOTRON

Tsakalof 31, Kolonaki  
and

SET E. ANTONIOU Co  
D. Soutsou 24, Tel.: 646-4835

PRINTED by  
Kranioi - Tsatsanifos Co.

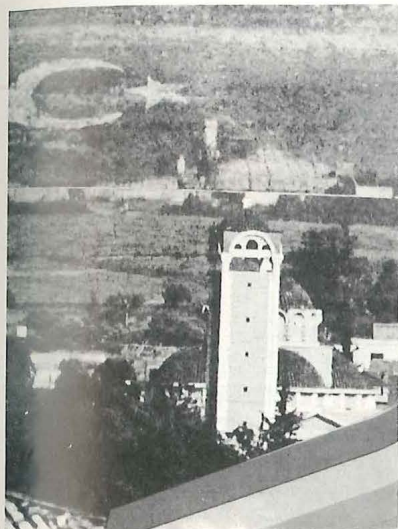
Reproduction, film, montage  
MEMIGRAF O.E.  
Tel. 363-6358

The Athenian, founded in 1974, is published monthly by THE ATHENIAN PRESS LTD. Tel. 322-2802. Fax 322-3052. Single copies: 475 drachmas. Yearly subscription rates: Greece 5000 drachmas. Europe \$US 36. World \$US 38Send orders, changes of address and inquiries to The Athenian, Peta 4, 105 58 Athens, Greece. Unsolicited manuscripts, photographs and artwork are welcome. All manuscripts, photographs and artwork are welcome. All manuscripts must be typed, double spaced and are subject to editorial changes. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with any submission. Letters to the editor are considered for publication but may be condensed due to space limitation and should include correspondent's telephone number.

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# FEATURES



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## Cyprus: Breakthrough or Break-Up? 18

After general euphoria for an early solution, the Cyprus issue is now experiencing (undergoing?) a relative deflation of hopes, due to the Soviet crisis and the intransigent statements from the Turkish and Greek sides. Paul Anastasi followed the ball in this volley exchange.

## Trying to Make an Issue of Macedonia 20

In view of the referendum on independence to be held in the Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia, Katerina Mistakidou analyzes the developments in bordering southern Yugoslavia and northern Greece.

## Astoria: Little Greece 22

Astoria is a lively aromatic enclave in New York and a stabilizing force in the area. There live 35,000 registered Greeks. Alice Christ shares with us the struggle and love of this very Greek community.



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## The National Herald 26

Born in April 1915 *Ethnikos Kiryx* is today the third oldest Greek newspaper after *Estia* and *Makedonia*. First an individual initiative, it became associated with the concerns of its readers, the Greeks of America.

## The Flocati Rug 34

It can be found in almost every Greek home and is exported all over the world. The fluffy 100 percent sheep's wool distinctive carpet is still made on a hand loom in Thessaloniki by dedicated artisans whom Shibly Nabhan met.

*The cover is by Robbi Goldberg*

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** Due to the absence of their owners, the research on Kindergarten announced for this month has been postponed



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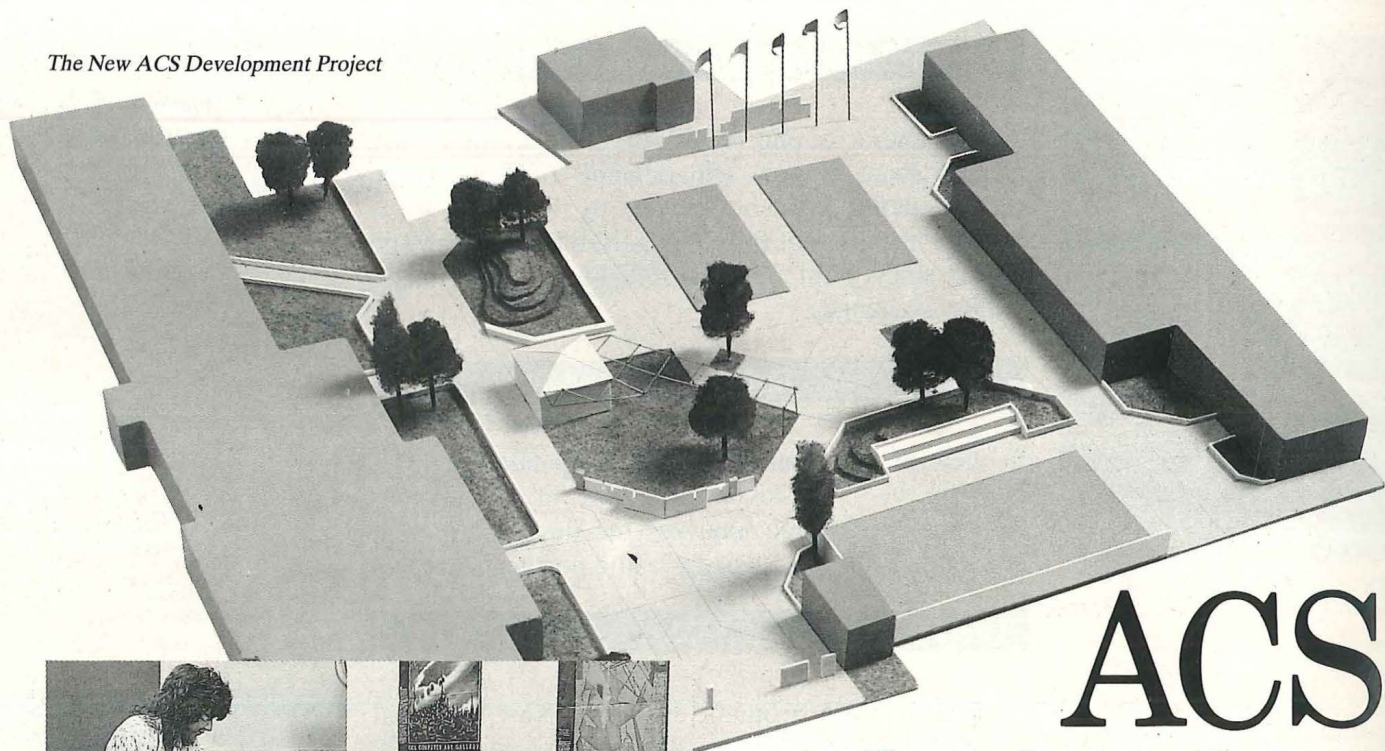
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### ALL THE FAMILY

So far as such things can be known, the failed coup against President Gorbachev was hatched *before* the official visit of Mr Mitsotakis to the Soviet Union accompanied by the family members with which he is so abundantly blest. From reading the fine print in the local press, however, one is led to suspect that the Soviet Union could no longer bear the financial burden of perestroika with so many extra foreign mouths to feed.

The Prime Minister had gone to Moscow with a large delegation of government officials and business representatives. The five-day visit had culminated in the signing by Mihail Gorbachev and Constantine Mitsotakis of a Cooperation and Friendship Accord which included important trade and shipping agreements, cooperation on customs services and control of drug trafficking, and a concurrence of views in foreign policy, such as the Cyprus issue, Greece's Balkan peace initiative and the so-called Macedonian problem.

It seems that every time there is a Greek agreement with the US it is necessary that it be matched by a Soviet one, following the maxims of Aristotle, 'nothing in excess' and 'observe the golden mean'. But, while much was being made of the "momentous significance" of this "historical occasion", the Minister of Industry, Stavros Dimas, announced his resignation from the cabinet even while still in Russia. The government was quick to call the cause of the resignation "trivial".

Trivia, however, are the things everyone is most interested in and "historical occasions" can go hang. It transpired that the Prime Minister's lively wife, Marika Mitsotaki, offered a bit of advice to the Minister of Industry during a reception and Mr Dimas replied that he was unused to having voices raised against him and exited in high dudgeon. If these remarks sound excessive, this is why Aristotle said what he did, because the ancient Greeks were

just as headstrong as their true and legitimate descendants.

The press in Athens was enthralled. An opposition deputy rose eloquently to the occasion, saying, "Given the fact that nine members of the Mitsotakis family participated in the official visit to the Soviet Union, it's a wonder that only one minister resigned."

Another believed that the incident strengthened rumors that the Mitsotakis family was "treating government ministers as domestic servants."

The bitterest attack on the prime minister's alleged nepotism has come from the conservative side of the media, in particular *Kathimerini* and its publisher's radio station SKY, which assert that his wife and daughter in effect run the country.

In a TV interview replying to the accusation aired on radio, the Premier said, "I heard one tape that made my hair stand on end... I felt deep shame. Nowhere else is heard such language of the gutter used against a prime minister and his family. It is filth of the uttermost degree. It is a danger from which not only the political world must defend itself, but society as a whole."

Replying to this outburst, the Hermes Mass Media Company filed a libel and defamation suit against Mr Mitsotakis demanding 50 million drachmas compensation. The press conglomerate displayed its civil spirit by proclaiming, if it wins the case, it will donate the money to charitable causes.

Meanwhile the government is said to be investigating possibilities that the press group is being secretly encouraged by rival conservative politicians eager to take over the party leadership. It is also looking into alleged financial corruption.

With such disarray and accusations of foul play being bandied about on the right, one might hope for reform on the left. No such luck. Doughty Ms

Aleka Papariga, General Secretary of KKE, joined the elite company of Castro and Qaddafi by supporting leaders of the putsch against Mr Gorbachev in the recent coup attempt. As a result, it is understandable that Greek *joie de vivre* has temporarily soured.

Proof of this is dramatically revealed in an EC survey which shows Greeks topping the list of folks "most dissatisfied with their lives" within the Community. For a country which, for decades, regardless of coups, earthquakes, forest fires, droughts, socialist adventures and other inscrutable acts of God and man, led the optimism list, it is a headshaking comedown. Showing the topsy-turvy state of the world, while 45 percent of Greeks showed themselves dissatisfied, the once melancholy Danes now are rated 97 percent cheerful and life-loving (probably because they spent the summer on swinging Rhodes).

Greeks, however, have good reason to be grumpy. A poster printed by the Council of Europe recently showed most of the Greek islands in the Easter Aegean the same color as Turkey. A pamphlet published by the Italian Olympic Committee was circulated during Greece's friendly hosting of the Mediterranean Games which claimed that historically Greeks were a bunch of Albanians and Slavs, thus reawakening after deep slumber the hysterical racist theories of German ethnologist Jakob Philipp Fallmerayer. On top of that, a very unlikely report circulated that Mr Bush whispered in President Ozal's ear during a performance of dancing dervishes in Istanbul that "Greece is nothing."

A blatant untruth. Among other things, Greece is Marika Mitsotaki. And if her persistent "Fai, paidi mou's" during a vast repast of Greek goodies at the Mitsotakis manoir in Hania in July meant that President Bush has to prolong his jogging sessions in Kennybunkport, then good for her. ■

# THE ATHENIAN DIARY

by Paul Anastasi, Sloane Elliott and Jenny Paris

## NEW (AND NOT SO NEW) FACES OF 1991

The government underwent its first cabinet reshuffle in August since coming to power 16 months ago. The cabinet has been streamlined from 42 to 37 seats. It is hardly the fulfilment of the old campaign promise of a lean and lithe body of 25, but a good many kilos have been worked off. There are nine new figures, but 12 familiar ones are no longer around.

Mr Mitsotakis has added to his premier's duties the sensitive Ministry of the Aegean following a sharp period of exchange with Turkey on the subject of island sovereignty.

The popular former mayor of Piraeus, Andreas Adrianopoulos, has

taken over the Ministry of Industry from Stavros Dimas who resigned in an awkward flap during a big government mission to Moscow in July. His ministry now includes that of Commerce.

The new Environment Minister is Achilleas Karamanlis. Although the President's much younger brother has held a great assortment of government jobs, this is his first fully ministerial post. He has replaced veteran cabinet member Stefanos Manos who is said to have been dropped because of friction with charismatic Athens mayor Antonis Tritsis.

Sotiris Kouvelas, former mayor of Thessaloniki, is Agriculture Minister while the popular Minister of Macedo-

nia and Thrace, George Tzitzikostas, has been replaced by Mitsotakis intimate, Panayiotis Hadzinikolaou.

Reliable Anna Psarouda-Benaki has been upgraded from Alternate Minister to full Minister of Culture, and another well-known woman in public life, Virginia Tsouderou, is the new Foreign Undersecretary.

Cabinet stalwarts Miltiades 'Bulldozer' Evert and 'Top-of-the-Pop' polls Antonis Samaras continue as Minister to the Prime Minister's Office and Foreign Minister, respectively.

Former Deputy Prime Ministers Tzannis Tzannetakis and Athanasios Kanellopoulos also remain in their roles but are now called Ministers of State. Another Minister of State is Mikis Theodorakis who nimbly jumped aboard when his -old title Minister Without Portfolio was abolished. He now has a portfolio to stuff his scores in.

At the swearing-in ceremony for the new cabinet, President Karamanlis produced a verbal barb so as to deflate any tempting display of political puff.

"You are obliged to succeed," he said, adding that he would only congratulate members on their appointments when they completed their terms of office "in a successful manner".

Inevitably, the media first pounced on the Premier's announcement that he was complying with the request of his daughter, Dora Bakoyianni, to be relieved of her post as Undersecretary to the Prime Minister.

"I accept her resignation," said Mr Mitsotakis, "despite the fact that she was successful in her work, but within the unwholesome political climate that exists she would have suffered unfair attacks that would have harmed her and, eventually, the government."

Mrs Bakoyianni has often been accused of influencing her father on political decisions, irritating party officials and finding jobs for political friends.

No sooner had the new cabinet ministers touched fingers to the Holy Book than they were hustled off to their first meeting.

"There will be no summer vacations for this first cabinet," bubbled the Prime Minister eagerly, "There's lots of work to be done."

### NIKIFOROS VRETTAKOS

The purest voice in modern Greek lyric poetry died at the age of 79 in his native Laconia on August 4. Above all, 'the poet of Mount Taygetus' celebrated the beauty of the world and the innate goodness lying in the heart of man. Humanity's corruptibility through social forces, however, led the poet to embrace basic Christian ethnics and socialist causes.

From a background of poor farmers, Vrettakos came to Athens to study law but dropped out for lack of funds. He worked as a clerk in the Ministry of Labor and the customs house in Piraeus for many years. He fought beside the Left in the Resistance and the Civil War and spent the junta years in self-exile in Palermo.

In 1941 he won the National Poetry Award and again in 1956. The Academy of Athens presented him with its annual prize for poetry in 1977 and elected him Academician in 1988.

He is survived by his widow, Kalliopi Apostolidou, his companion of over 50 years; his son, director Kostas Vrettakos; and his daughter, painter Jenny Vrettakou.

The following passage, characteristic of his work, is translated by Konstantinos Lardas.

from "Return from Delphi"

*Let it not end!*

*Without words, without a whisper, as though all words  
had been exhausted, as though we knew no language, as though  
no language would do, like the stars and fir trees of Parnassus,  
we were hushed. When beneath the holy firmament you return  
from Delphi, your weeping barely restrained, a single tear  
becomes a language myriad-tongued. It seemed to us that something  
could be dimly heard, as though from somewhere beyond her star  
Sappho was playing her lyre. Meanwhile all were silent,  
we and the stars and the poets of the ages and the wind  
asleep in the olive trees, and nothing could be heard  
but the echoes of the Phaidriades, humming and resounding  
all night long, that night the most beautiful in all our lives,  
and which shall never come again; echoes which seemed as though  
an arch-herald, erect within the silence, kept repeating:  
"By the great Olympian! Of what use are words in love?"*



## STRICTER STATE CUTBACKS

With the EC tightly holding the purse for any further loans and closely monitoring the government's rather poky austerity timetable, Mr Mitsotakis has announced a freeze on public sector hiring, cutbacks in expenditure and a widening of the tax base. He reassured his creditors that not a single drachma on the Community loan or other EC funds would be used for consumption.

While inflation and foreign balance indices were "doing well", there is a problem with deficits and tax evasion. The Premier has conceded the existence of a para-economy which, because it runs on a strictly cash basis and borrows privately, is extremely hard to catch. "Some people pay taxes," the Prime Minister said simply, "and some do not."

The government is now drafting a bill to plug one of its most noteworthy leaks: the pensions being paid to people who fought in the National Resistance to the Nazis. At the moment (nearly a half century later) there are 75,000 registered pensioners receiving 60 billion drachmas a year and 430,000 more (*sic*) have applied for a sum of 70 billions.

A government official, in exasperation, said, "The PASOK government turned the National Resistance into a trade for votes, distributing tens of thousands of pensions to those who were 12 or under when the war came to an end."

## NEW AIRSPACE CONTROL

The Civil Aviation Authority has signed an agreement with a French aeronautics company which will result in the installation of a state-of-the-art air traffic control radar system. This will help monitor all national airspace. Among the benefits accrued will be the possibility of having more flights by foreign airlines, thus increasing tourism.

"The complete control of the national airspace," said Transport Minister Gelestathis, "will halt unfounded grievances by Turkey about the security of flights over the Aegean... There are only two European countries without this system," he added. "One is Greece; the other is Albania."

As the cost of the system and its implementation will be covered in eight years by tolls paid by foreign airlines using Greek air corridors, the project, in essence, is self-financed.



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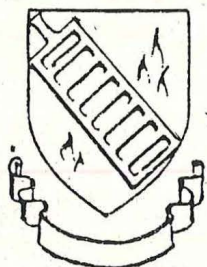
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## BUYING OUT BIG

Agrostar, SA, an agricultural applications firm has offered to buy a majority holding in Viohellas, the only company in Greece engaged in research and production in the field of biotechnology. If the purchase had not been made, the company would have gone into liquidation.

Among recent major buy-outs, only Boutari Wines' take-over of Cambas has been between two Greek companies. Misko, as Greek as the whitewashed walls its ads were sprayed on, has been taken over by the big Italian pasta people, Barilla, and the Grande Bretagne Hotel, a survivor of Greek gentility, is now chained to CIGA hosteleries.

Although Italian companies have been involved in six big mergers recently, Germany has jumped to fourth place among countries invested in Greece, after the US, France and Switzerland. The main subsidiaries of giant German multinationals operating here are Siemens, BASF, AEG and Hoescht.

## CLAMPDOWN ON ROAD MADNESS

In the wake of the latest official statistics which show that Greece has by far the worst traffic accident rate in Europe, the government has announced severe penalties for offenders of what it describes as the "five killer violations": Excessive speeding, entering an opposite line of traffic, violating red traffic lights, illegal overtaking and not giving right of way.

An official press release described the death and injury toll on Greek roads as "equivalent to a small-scale war, the only difference being that this war has no end."

To curb the phenomenon, the ministers said that offending drivers would either be arrested and put on trial immediately, or their driving licence and number plates removed, meaning an indefinite ban on driving.

The measures were announced shortly after the latest Greek shock statistics showed that seven people are killed on roads every day, almost twice the figure five years ago and by far the worst ratio in Europe compared to population. On weekends and public holidays, the mass exodus leads to far higher death toll figures. The record this year was 32 dead over the three-day feast of the Holy Spirit holiday.

This murderous phenomenon has been attributed to the poor condition of

roads, inadequate signposting, the 'unruly nature' of Greek drivers and the high cost of new cars which induces owners to hang on to their old – and therefore less reliable – cars as long as possible.

## WAR DECLARED ON CHAOS

An urban plan optimistically code-named 'Operation Orderliness' is the latest brainstorm of Athens' visionary mayor, Antonis Tritsis, who is trying to reduce chaos in the metropolis.

Among the 14 points in the program is the policing of pedestrian malls, stepping up measures for the elimination of illegal parking and strictly applying the 8:30 pm to 6:30 am timetable for making deliveries. A controversial item is the curbing of individual kiosk space to two square metres. Some people think that kiosks are spilling out their wares too far; others feel that the law is curtailing the city's last great conveniences.

The first success of the clean-up campaign was an attack on the oversized Lacoste alligator advertisement camouflaging the façade of the now-defunct King George II Hotel in Syntagma.

## UPDATE ON EKALI MURDERS

Authorities have confirmed that a warrant was urgently dispatched to Thailand for the arrest and trial there of the alleged mass murderer of the wealthy Chrysafidis family in Ekali last June.

Security police spokesman, Vassilis Malios, said that arrest warrants for the prime suspects of the crime, the family's 28-year old Thai butler, Prasert Servatsan, and his wife Uasita Kinaron, were delivered to Bangkok through Interpol. The Thai couple are charged with manslaughter as well as with stealing bonds worth of 27 million drachmas from the luxury villa of the family.

It is the first time that theft emerges as one of the motives for what police has officially described as "one of the most gruesome crimes in Greek police history."

## COLD TURKEY

Ankara has poured cold water on the Greek proposal for removing all aggressive weapons from Turkish, Greek and Bulgarian Thrace. The plan is similar to the treaty for the limitation of conventional weapons in Europe.

In its reply, Ankara said that Greek and Turkish forces were deployed in Thrace "for the purpose of joint de-

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fense and in accordance with the strategy of NATO.”

“Mr Mitsotakis’ proposal should present a more multidimensional perspective,” the statement said. Referring to Greek armament of Aegean islands, it continued, “If Greece’s behavior conformed to its international obligations, the proposal would have been assessed more positively, and the Greek initiative would be of more consequence and more convincing.”

In reply, the Greek government said, “It is exactly this negative climate prevailing along the borders of Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria which the initiative aimed at eliminating... We regret that Turkey does not agree with a permanent and stable climate of tranquility,” the statement concluded, while it welcomed Bulgaria’s warm reception of the proposal.

### DORO LEVI

The Nestor of foreign archaeologists in Greece, Doro Levi, died at the age of 93 in Rome in July. For 30 years he was the beloved director of the Italian Archaeological School of Athens. He first came to Greece as a student of the Neolithic period in 1921. Three years later his first fieldwork took place under the noted excavator Federico Halbherr in Crete.

Although he held important posts at the University of Cagliari, the Archaeological Museum in Florence, the Biblioteca Hertziana in Rome and the Institute for Advanced Studies at Princeton, Levi’s greatest contribution was his series of systematic excavations at Phaistos and their publication from 1952.

### COMPENSATING WASTED TIME

In a move that has already drawn scorn from the media, the government announced that it will try to cut through red tape by paying compensation of between 5000 and 200,000 drachmas to citizens who face “unjustified bureaucratic delays” at public services.

The move is part of a government drive to speed up Greece’s notorious public sector, where bureaucratic delays are believed to be the worst in the EC and one of the main causes of public discontent. The measure covers all areas ranging from delays at state banks, to state hospitals, ministries and other public services.

According to the new law, the level of financial compensation will be determined by the amount of time unjustifiably wasted by a Greek citizen.

A special court will be set up to hear

the public’s complaints and to determine the amount of cash to be given to them, according to hours or days wasted. But the press was quick to point out that this procedure will only generate yet one more source of time-wasting bureaucratic red tape.

### FEWER FOREST FIRES

There has been a record drop in forest fires in the first half of this year, compared to any corresponding period over the past decade.

Telling reporters “I hope I’m not speaking too soon”, Alternate Minister of Agriculture Panos Hajinikolaou said that forest fires in the first half of this year have dropped to only 200, compared to 667 in the corresponding period last year.

He said the small extent of the damage is even more impressive, since the area of forest land burnt out is eleven times less than last year.

The reasons for the sharp decline in forest blazes this year include a major campaign of enlightenment to make the Greek public less careless over such dangers as smoking or camping in forests, the lack of strong winds this summer, and the purchase of more sophisticated fire-fighting aircraft.

Forest blazes have been so devastating over the past few decades, that while 40 percent of the country was forested at the end of the World War II, only 18 percent remains so today.

### In Brief

- After years of effort, Greece has managed to secure official EC acknowledgement that two of its traditional products, **feta cheese and ouzo** are products of exclusively Greek origin. At the same time, the Ministry of Trade said the EC has also agreed to introduce legislation protecting the traditional means of their production against imitation by other EC countries. Their export to Europe in recent years has been undercut by imitation productions coming mostly from Scandinavian countries.

- Businessman and former crony of Andreas Papandreou **George Louvaris** has been sentenced to four years in prison and fined 21 million drachmas by a misdemeanors court. He was found guilty of using “his relationship with high government officials” to include himself on the payroll in the purchase of 267 Magic missiles from France. The court said he had no right

to act as private middleman to the government deal.

- The wreck of the *Oceanos* off the 'Wild Coast' of South Africa last month was the third major loss in recent years for the **Epirotiki Lines** based in Piraeus. The car ferry *Pegasos* burned while berthed in Venice last May and the cruise ship *Jupiter* sank off Piraeus after a collision with a freighter in 1988.

- Conditions existing in the state-run **psychiatric hospital** on Leros, exposed by the Tzannetakis 'Government of Catharsis' in 1989 and causing an uproar in the European press, have been corrected. Stipulations set by the EC have been met, and the European Commission's report is resuming the of funding for further care programs.

- In reply to opposition questions raised in Parliament, Finance Minister Palaiokrassas affirmed that **properties of ex-King Constantine**, including the villa of Mon Repos on Corfu and the Tatoi estate and summer palace will become public property due to non-payment of taxes.

- Poor and forgotten in the end, as he was for most of his life, **rembetis George Mouflouzelis** died in Athens on August 4. He was 80 years old. Born on Mytilene, he left grammar school after two years and played the bouzouki and the baglama at panigyria. He came to Athens in 1958 and enjoyed a period of fame with the revival of interest in rembetika in the 1960s and 70s, and his charm particularly appealed to foreigners.

- This year's Symposium of History and Art held in Monemvasia honored the world's leading Byzantinist, **Sir Steven Runciman**. Greek and British scholars gathered to deliver papers on the distinguished scholar and Lydia Carra's documentary on his life was screened.

- A contingent of Evzones and 100 Greek athletes led the parade of over a thousand participants in the biennial **Special Olympic Games** for the mentally handicapped held in Minneapolis last month. The Games will be hosted by Greece in 1995.

- Bishop Avgoustinos of Florina has called on the Holy Synod to send priests to Albania. Since Tirana lifted the ban on Christian rites, at least 500 Greek Orthodox parishes are without officiating clergy.



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# Walking along the Streets of Athens

In Lisbon, an executive of an American corporation, an entrepreneur with an idea and money from Australia, a technocrat from Japan, can enter the doors of one moderately imposing building, talk to one government central agency, obtain all the information needed on laws and licenses, incentives and taxes, regulations and finances or anything appertaining to opening and running a business in Portugal, efficiently and with a smile. Portugal wants your business and will bend over backwards to get it.

So? So in Athens the same international investors will walk along the streets of Athens from the Ministry of National Economy, very helpful but for *that* you will have to talk to the Ministry of Finance who want desperately to please but for *this* you will have to talk to the Ministry of Commerce (not the Ministry of Trade) who will do anything to take your money but unfortunately *these* matters are in the purview of the Ministry of National Economy. So turns the great wheel of government.

An exaggeration? Not really. The Greek Government, unlike the Portuguese, does little to get business started. There is no 'one-stop-shopping' for potential investors, just a morass of ministries. Result: new investments in Portugal (so similar in size and 'starting economy base' to Greece) shooting up, new investments in Greece stagnant.

Don't count the Greek companies like Metaxas bought out by foreigners British Grand Metropolitan/IDV and Pavlides by American Phillip Morris/Suchard; they were just picked up as cheap assets to fit into the buyers' overall marketing plans. But starting new enterprises in order to increase Greece's economy and improve her foreign currency balance? A big zilch compared to her European Community partner on the Atlantic.

Of course a potential investor in Greece can go to one of the several consulting firms who will answer all questions (they are doing a job by default; a job that the government should be straining to do) but investors usually like to know it first hand and the government is bereft of much early investment information.

But don't get the idea that the Greek Government is not trying. In the Ministry of National Economy, Dr Nikos Stathopoulos is trying to get private business working. Today the economy is much better organized and, maybe more important, much more sympathetic to private business than during the years of PASOK.

**A potential investor  
in Greece  
can go to one of the  
consultant firms  
who will answer  
all questions**

One company that has the brief to do something about this state of affairs is HBDIC (Hellenic Business Development and Investment Company). This is a Greek investment firm incorporated in Athens on 12 June 1988 as part of the offset program stemming from the sale to Greece of 40 F16 fighter aircraft. Its objective, under its articles of association, is to invest in Greek business that are either export oriented or, by import substitution, increase the earnings of foreign currency.

It is funded to the tune of 50 million US dollars which is paid in over a period of years by its shareholders (General Dynamics, General Electric and Westinghouse). The Ministry of National Economy representing the

Greek Government received gratis five percent of the capital stock. The board of directors consists of four from General Dynamics, one each from General Electric and Westinghouse and two from the Greek State; all investment decisions must be unanimous.

Up to April 1990 (new government elected under Constantine Mitsotakis) the political climate did little to encourage foreign investment, particularly American. Nevertheless, some projects were initiated by HBDIC:

CST-E: Started in April 1990 making custom software for the financial services industry. Sales are made to the Middle East and Europe. Now diversifying into software for medical systems and other business applications.

FORSOL: Expects to start production in September 91 with deliveries in early 1992. Manufacturer of electric power capacitors for export.

HELLENIC DECORATIVE ROCKS: Production starting in September 91; makes finished marble products for export.

INTERNATIONAL CLOTHING: Expansion of a 1975 factory in Kalamata. Very successful; exports to Europe and Japan.

ERGON: Started in 1988 in a garage. Local invention of numerical-controlled machines for wire bending – bedsprings to construction – 99 percent exported. Capital being injected for expansion and management help.

CANARD DORE: New venture (part of Global Transport). Food processing started in 1988. Injected capital for both increased management efficiency and production. 100 percent export.

DIEL SA: Started in 1990 making coated abrasives. Extra capital needed to expand. Has recently concluded agreement with FELDMUHLE in Germany to take over distribution.

Two new projects: ALUMINA, making aluminium ware for hospitals and ships, has been in existence for 30

years. It exports most of its products and needs capital for expansion. CLAUSS, the wine makers, want capital and expertise in marketing outside Greece.

Another promising new project is the HCI Hellas state-of-the-art Diagnostic Center with a laboratory set up by Medscan (Malmo, Sweden). If it receives the necessary licenses, this project will provide a facility so far unknown to Greece: it will save untold amounts of foreign currency spent on specialist treatment abroad and will attract income from other countries in the region. The government is behind the project but bureaucracy is still bureaucracy.

Ten years ago a 220-room hospital was donated to the Greek government. Private money built the hospital and ordered medical equipment from abroad. The equipment could not be installed because one government department insisted that duty must be paid. The donor rightly said that he had already spent 10 million US dollars on this hospital as a gift to the country and he refused to pay duty on the medical equipment, also donated to the country. Three years later, the various government departments sorted out their differences; the equipment was installed; the hospital will be handed over to the government in September 1991. Patients only had to wait three years.

Many other fruitful enterprises have been dropped the same way, many due to problems inside Greek ministries. Available for investment also are many government-owned businesses that are due to be privatized. Except for a few that are viable, investors will wait until these overmanned under-utilised leviathans are closed down. They will be by the end of 1991 (under the terms of a recent EC loan to Greece) and then assets can be picked up at knock-down prices.

EC funds to Greece go mainly to the public sector into infrastructure development. Now the EC auditors are examining more carefully the end-result of their funded programs. Because this flow is from institution to institution the need for investment companies such as HBDIC is essential; firstly to encourage the small and medium business and secondly, to improve management techniques, efficiency and competitiveness.

It would be wonderful of course if Prime Minister Mitsotakis had the will and the political ability to cut through the red tape. Then, walking along the streets of Athens would be just for pleasure.

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# Cyprus Progresses while Facing an Uncertain Future

**W**ith a solution to the 17-year-old Cyprus problem now high on the international agenda again, it is interesting to ponder what implications a breakthrough might have for the island's economy.

As the Republic of Cyprus has performed nothing short of an economic miracle since it was deprived of a third of its territory and 70 percent of its assets by the Turkish occupation, many Cypriot businessmen have asked rhetorically what they might have achieved if the 1974 invasion had never happened.

In fact, Cyprus has transformed itself into a growing offshore centre and a modern service economy, albeit one which is structurally fragile because of its dependence on tourism. It is difficult to predict how well the small but well-ordered economy would absorb the poorer northern territory in the happy event of reunification, especially after the proportionately comparable precedent of the merging of the two Germanies showed the severity of the problems which may have to be faced.

It is doubtful whether much contingency planning has been devoted to the economic future for a reunited Cyprus. The island's economists have been devoting most of their energy to calculating the country's position as a prospective member of the European Community.

For some time, Cyprus has enjoyed a progressively closer customs treaty with the EC and has been slowly restructuring its ways of doing business along the lines laid down by Brussels. Since the republic filed its formal application for membership last year, the government has decreed that, as far as practicable, all new legislation will be harmonized with that of the Community.

However, there is still much uncer-

tainty and a good deal of work to be done before the island can be confident of flourishing within the EC. According to John Ioannidis, General Manager of the Cyprus Development Bank, the key institution for promoting and restructuring sectors which can compete internationally, "we need to face the uncertainty now, not in 1992 or later,

**By virtue of a liberal tax regime and a sunny, hospitable environment, Cyprus has expanded rapidly as an offshore centre for financial, trading and – lately – shipping companies.**

so we can reap the benefits of a vast market when we enter the EC." To this end, he and other top bankers have urged the government to speed up the process of liberalization, including the relaxing of currency controls. Protectionism and subsidies were probably necessary to put the economy on its feet again after the trauma of 1974, it is conceded, but today they are not helping the business community to focus on the challenge ahead.

A good example of what can be done in a relatively short time has been shown by the national carrier, Cyprus Airways, which, as recently as 1988, had to digest the implications of a 20 percent reduction in its market share combined with Europe's forthcoming 'open skies' policy. It began to reappraise its whole position as an airline and decided its future lay as a high-class service-oriented carrier which, by virtue of its position in between Europe and the Middle East could flourish as a

'feeder' for larger airlines in Europe, the United States and the Far East if it could match their quality. The new strategy culminated this year when Cyprus Airways relaunched itself with a new corporate image, new liveries, new staff uniforms, restyled aircraft and a new marketing network. In May, it signed its first major cooperation agreement with Dutch airline KLM, under which the Cypriot company would provide the services for both companies between Amsterdam and several Middle East destinations.

With an economically active population of less than 300,000, Cyprus has striven to attract foreign businesses in recent years and, by virtue of a liberal tax regime and a sunny, hospitable environment, has expanded rapidly as an offshore centre for financial, trading and – lately – shipping companies doing business outside the domestic market. Last year the Central Bank of Cyprus issued a further 970 company permits, bringing the number of offshore companies registered on the island to some 6800, although only about 800 such firms currently have fully-fledged offices in Cyprus.

The island's offshore activities, which were recently boosted by the arrival of some major Soviet and other Eastern European enterprises wishing to use Cyprus' advantageous terms as a base for commercializing their operations, are another source of uncertainty in the context of likely EC membership. "When the time comes we will negotiate very hard to keep our offshore identity," says Sophocles Michaelidis, Director of the Central Bank's international division, who points to the precedents granted by Brussels for Ireland and Luxembourg to continue their offshore arrangements for certain types of economic activity.



One reason for the continuing influx of international companies which have chosen to relocate operations to Cyprus, and for the growth of the service economy in general, is the highly qualified Cypriot workforce. Proportionately, Cyprus has one of the highest number of college graduates in the world and this year is opening its own university, as well as expanding the management school on the island. However, so successfully has the economy expanded that conditions of near full employment have created pressure

## Proportionately, Cyprus has one of the highest number of college graduates in the world and this year is opening its own university.

on the labor market and inevitably some sectors, such as tourism and the construction industry, have experienced a shortage of skilled labor, leading to calls for the government to allow more foreign hiring.

Despite the alarm caused by the invasion of Kuwait last August, Cyprus maintained its economic growth rate in 1990. This was equivalent to a 6 percent rise in GDP, or about twice the rate of growth of the developed industrial countries of the EC. "By most standards, this could be considered as very satisfactory," said the Central Bank's recently published annual report.

Capital investment was also up when adjusted to allow for a decrease in payments by Cyprus Airways for new airliners. However, average rates of pay in real terms increased faster than gains in productivity, and inflation rose from 3.8 percent in 1989 to 4.5 percent, although this in part was caused by the rise in cost of oil products due to the Gulf crisis.

The fiscal deficit also widened last year due to increased public sector demands, approximately doubling from 31.4m Cyprus pounds (representing 1.4 percent of GDP) to 61.4m Cyprus pounds (or 2.5 percent of GDP), although this is considered to be within manageable limits and was mainly financed by domestic borrowing.

But the Central Bank predicted that the public sector deficit would widen considerably in 1991 because of the stagnation of economic growth due to the Gulf war and the shortfall in tax income following changes to the island's tax laws, so the treasury might have to turn to foreign loans to cover

the gap this year.

Statistics for the first four months of the year showed the Gulf conflict had hit tourism, manufacturing and exports, while agriculture had suffered because of a particularly severe drought. Tourism is estimated to be between 30 and 40 percent lower this year than in 1990, and the Central Bank concluded that the crisis would be temporary and should not be allowed to distract from the restructuring of the economy.

However, some of the island's leading tourist trade companies have criticized the lack of strategic government support given to the industry. For example, one of the top hotel owners, Evagoras Lanitis, this summer said the Cyprus Tourism Organization had made so many mistakes in its policy that the sector would have suffered a crisis this year even if the Gulf war had not occurred. Lanitis said the CTO had failed to come up with a coordinated international advertising campaign and to follow private enterprise in developing the sector. He mooted the idea that the semi-government organization might be privatized and also charged that the expansion of recent years had made Cypriots 'overconfident' - an observation which more and more leading businessmen have been making recently.

Apart from a few key projects, such as temporary support for the newly repositioned state-controlled airline and the construction of new airport facilities, or the sewage and water projects which have stunted the development of tourism and agriculture, the thrust of government thinking must now go towards liberalization, say all but the most protectionist economists.

Progress has been made in areas like allowing exporters to hold external accounts with domestic banks and some steps to free exchange controls, but the government will have to go further - particularly by removing controls on capital transactions and allowing interest rates to rise above the current fixed rate of 9 percent, according to the Central Bank. If interest rates remain so low, Cypriot capital would inevitably flood out of the country if capital movements were freed.

Of course, if a political solution is found to the division of the island, it would throw many of the existing parameters of the economy into confusion. But it would not change the necessity of leading Cyprus down the road towards participation in a liberal European market where its forward-looking service companies are expected to flourish. ■

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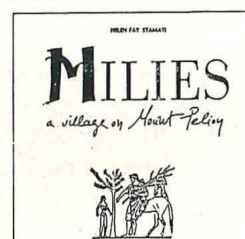
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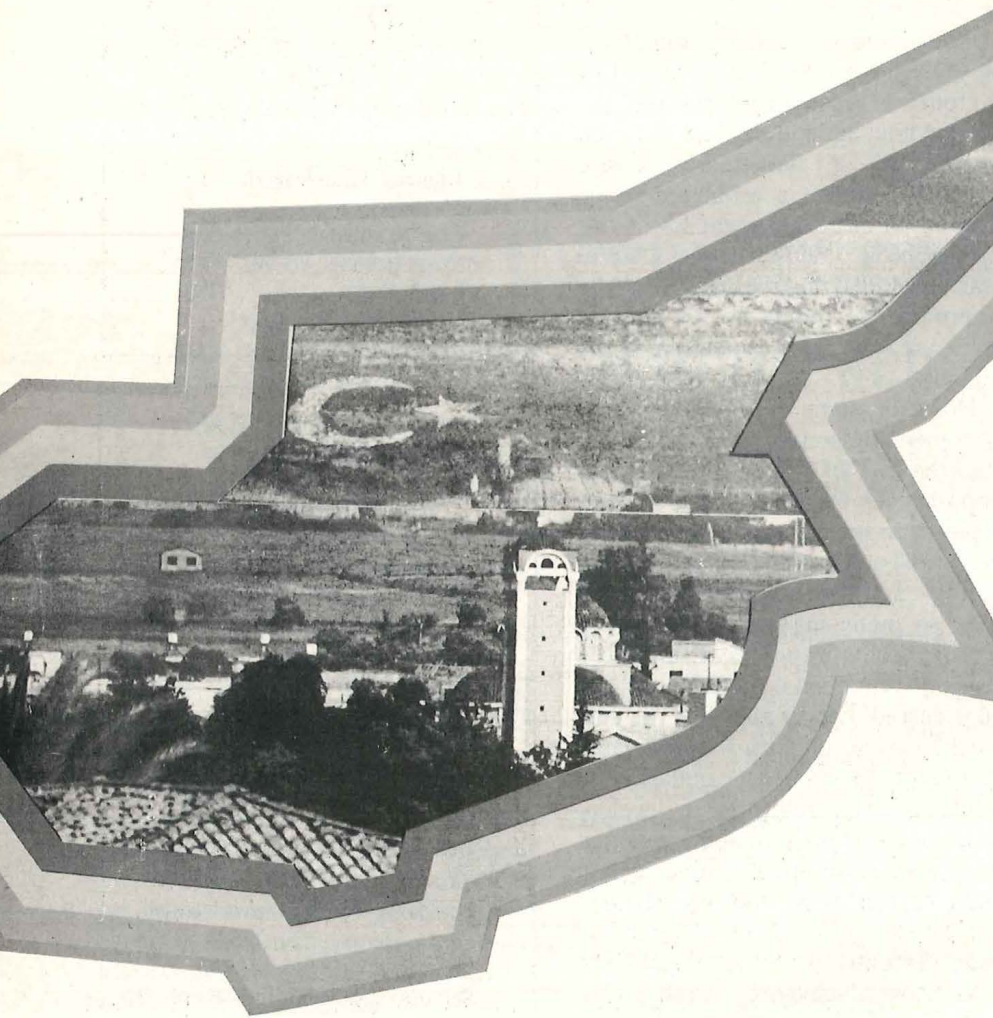
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# CYPRUS: BREAK- THROUGH OR BREAK-UP?

**It will take a lot of patience and open-mindedness on the part of Greek and Turkey just to fulfil the preconditions for the conference on Cyprus planned to take place in Washington this month.**

by Paul Anastasi

**A**fter an outburst of euphoria for an early breakthrough in the Cyprus problem, following President Bush's much publicized visit to Greece and Turkey and his near-imposition of a conference on the issue to take place in Washington in September, a certain pessimism has now developed as to whether the conference will even take place.

Matters have not been helped by the outbreak of the political crisis in the Soviet Union following the hardline coup d'état and ouster of President Gorbachev. International attention has inevitably focused on that all-important issue leaving little interest in promoting the far more peripheral problem of Cyprus.

The Soviet crisis aside, the relative

deflation of hopes has arisen over intransigents statements from the Turkish and Greek sides, as to whether any preconditions for the Conference have indeed matured. Those preconditions were that "substantive progress on bridging the various differences" must first be registered if the Washington Conference is to happen at all.

The issues immediately at stake are the question of Turkish concessions as to the amount of territory it occupies on Cyprus, which areas and towns it is willing to return, and how many Greek-Cypriot refugees can be resettled. On the other hand, the Greeks must decide how the Turkish Cypriot sense of security can be enhanced, the extent of their self-administration within a united Republic, what additional constitutional

guarantees they can have, and how they can participate effectively in central government.

The first blow to the hopes of a Conference came from the Turkish government itself, as voiced from within the occupied Cypriot territories. Turkish Foreign Minister Safa Giray, during a three-day visit to the Turkish-occupied north, said that the Turkish Cypriots had not committed themselves to making territorial concessions, and that the issue would be discussed directly at the Conference. Previously, the Greeks had 'leaked' the argument that the Turkish Cypriots should retain 25 percent instead of the current 40 percent of Cypriot territory they hold. This reduced proportion, the Greeks say, is still well above the 18 percent of

the population they represent. The Greeks also suggested that the return of the towns of Famagusta and Morphou was a 'must'.

The Greek Foreign Ministry immediately volleyed back that the apparent Turkish intransigence over the territorial issue "is in conflict with the agreed prerequisite that sufficient progress be achieved before the conference can be convened."

Earlier, the Greeks had also angrily dismissed a joint invitation by Ankara and the Turkish-Cypriots, demanding that direct talks between Greek and Turkish Cypriots precede the September international conference.

Said the Greek Foreign Ministry "This demand (for bi-communal talks prior to the September conference) is outside the framework of the UN initiative and constitutes a second violation of the agreed procedure concerning the Conference."

The Greek government in general feels that the issues had been complicated further by the upcoming Turkish general elections, as the competing political parties might feel compelled to outbid each other in nationalist rhetoric – thereby making it difficult for any

Turkish leader to risk concessions over Cyprus.

It is under these circumstances of apparent regression, rather than progress, that both the US government and the UN have been attempting to keep the flag of hope flying. Ambassador Nelson Ledsky, the US Special Envoy for Cyprus, toured Greece, Turkey and Cyprus soon after President Bush's August 2 announcement that all parties concerned agreed to a Conference in Washington in September. Close on his heels followed the two special envoys to the UN Secretary General, Xavier Perez de Cuellar, under whose chairmanship the Conference is to take place. Mr Cuellar is also to consult with the member nations of the UN Security Council, such as the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and China.

Under the circumstances, it is perhaps surprising that Oscar Camilion, one of the UN envoys on Cyprus, has insisted on being optimistic that the September Conference will indeed take place. Speaking in Athens after a meeting with Foreign Minister Antonis Samaras at the end of August, he conceded that "there are at least eight major issues that have to be resolved."

Yet he added "Despite the differing views heard of recently, I believe that with hard work the Conference can still be held, and September always remains our target."

But both Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis and Foreign Minister Samaras, however, appeared unconvinced. Speaking after those very same talks with the UN envoy, and prior to the latter's departure for Ankara, Mr Samaras declared that "Without concrete answers on the territorial question, the problem of the refugees and other aspects of the Cyprus issue, it will be difficult to have a convergence of views, and therefore the prerequisite for a conference will not have been satisfied. And the present process, instead of moving on to its logical consequence, will risk becoming a series of diplomatic comings and goings without substance." ■

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*Paul Anastasi is the Athens correspondent for the New York Times and Daily Telegraph, and the Director of Free Press news agency and Athens' English-language radio station.*

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# TRYING TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF 'MACEDONIA'

**Like Slovenia and Croatia before it,  
the Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia  
(referred to in Greece as 'Skopje')  
is holding a referendum on independence this month.  
There is no feeling of anxiety in Athens, however,  
since the republic,  
conceived by Tito in 1944 to contain Serbia,  
has no chance of making it on its own.**

by Katerina Mistakidou

The recent crisis in northern Yugoslavia has fanned the spark in the Balkans reviving all the old questions and ethnic divisions patched up politically at the end of World War I. The determination of Slovenians and Croats to liberate themselves from what they consider a backward Serbian domination has set in motion an unpredictable chain of events. Now that the referendum for the independence of the Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia is set on 8 September, it is indicative that ideas from the north have contaminated the south.

Greece has watched the developments of neighboring Yugoslavia with increasing apprehension, not only because of common borders, but primarily because Yugoslavia is its commercial umbilical cord connecting it by land to the European Community. Northern Greece, and particularly the rich provinces of Veria, Naoussa and Edessa that are the main exporters of fruit and vegetables, are particularly vulnerable and immediately affected by the war skirmishes since Yugoslavia constitutes the only outlet for its produce. "The cross-border trade in consumer items has fallen off now, with the complete devaluation of the Yugoslavian dinar," says Christos Alexiou, President of the Chamber of Commerce in Florina.

Basically, it is northern Greece that first and foremost felt the repercussions of the Yugoslavian crisis, watching a daily decline in the flow of tourists who crossed its borders, even for a daily trip, or to buy Greeks products, from detergents to clothes. The smaller cities closer to the border like Florina have been even more affected than the big

urban centers like Thessaloniki.

Apart from these economic concerns, a lot of people closer to the frontier are naturally more sensitive to political changes in the neighboring countries, because, as in the case of the Albanian refugees, they are the first to be affected. The fact that some of the people in northern Greece are bilingual, speaking a Slavic idiom has no particular significance, although both Skopje and Sofia have contradicting theories about what constitutes Macedonia, with lobbies mainly in Canada and Australia. Sofia's is the older one, dating from over a century ago, while Skopje's only dates from the creation of its new Republic in 1945.

Athens is not particularly anxious about the referendum in Skopje, judging that an independent Republic of Macedonia will be ineffective and incapable of viability in the midst of so many incongruities. The fact that Greece has very friendly ties with Serbia and has maintained good neighborly relations with Yugoslavia is a positive factor. The Greek government spokesman, Vyron Polydoros, has said "it is an internal issue of Yugoslavia" and refused to make any further statements.

Bordering Greece on one side and Bulgaria on the other, the southern part of Yugoslavia will find it very difficult to survive as an independent republic because it will have to balance an odd mixture of restless ethnic minorities with different religions. Bulgaria and Yugoslavia are locked in a long-standing dispute over Macedonia. Apart from its consistency in having an explosive nature, the republic's economy is in complete shambles. Any financing from the outside world seems

most unlikely with all the simultaneous autonomous movements that have broken out. Yugoslavia's economy has been in a tragic state with a steady decline over the past years, and Skopje has never been particularly affluent.

Apart from ethnic Turks, there are a lot of Moslem Albanians in Skopje and the Saudis have also tried to alleviate their economic plight by pouring in money to support their faith.

This part of southern Yugoslavia was chopped off and formed into an artificial republic, mainly in order to balance the overpowering presence of Serbia. It was a political act conceived by Tito in 1944 who first gave it the name Macedonia the following year. The second step was the upgrading, to the class of a new language under the same name, of a group of dialects spoken in the geographical area of Monastir-Skopje-Perlepe. Over a Slavic gramatical skeleton with a lot of Turkish words and newly-imported French words needed to fill the gaps for new notions, the 'language of Skopje' was born.

In northern Greece, there is a fundamental difference in the spoken dialect due to the large percentage of Greek words and a significant percentage of Vlach words that constitute the vocabulary. Nonetheless, it allows Greeks to communicate with Yugoslavs of the border areas in simple everyday words restricted to a basic grammar. A lot of people in the area have called it

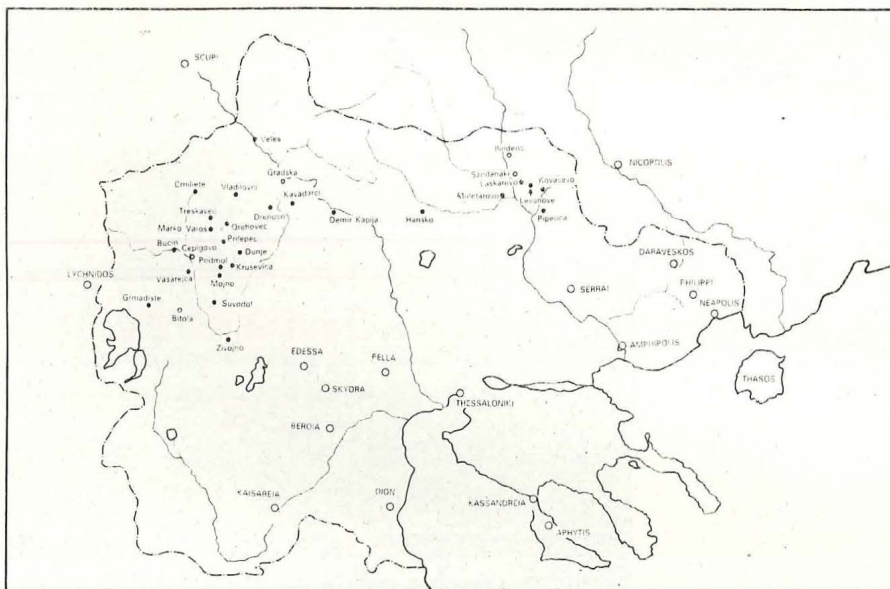
Bulgarian, and due to this and the fact that many in the area declared a Bulgarian orientation, there were exchanges of populations between Greece and Bulgaria, the first in 1924 under the Politis-Karlov Agreement and the second in 1928 under the Kafantaris-Molov Agreement. The Treaty of Bucharest in 1913 delineated the then existent borders of Macedonia giving 51.1 percent to Greece, 39.5 percent to Yugoslavia and 10 percent to Bulgaria.

The communists later created a theory for a Greater Macedonia which the Greek Communist Party endorsed in its 5th Plenum in 1949 at the end of the Civil War. Later, in 1956, they rejected these positions, but some diehards of these theories still exist among a handful of people in Greece who can find no new platform of ideas. Many believe that they are used as agents by Skopje. Yet it is in Canada where Skopje has its strongest lobby, and from there, various theories are spread about a Macedonian identity, with funding even paid out among some people in Greece. "It may be to the advantage of Greeks if Skopje becomes independent because it will clear the air about the historical inaccuracies once and for all," says a western diplomat.

In 1957 the federal state was re-named the 'Socialist Republic of Macedonia' and in June it became the 'Republic of Macedonia'. The Bulgarians, however, had appropriated this area much earlier when the first signs of a geographical interest appeared on the horizon in the 19th century. The two committees of the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization (VMRO) were first created in Sofia and Resen. Today, the strongest party in Skopje is the VMRO, while a similar VMRO UMO (Union of Macedonian Organization) was created two years ago in Sofia.

Since the overthrow of Todor Zhivkov, Bulgaria has a rekindled interest in the issue. The last high-level bilateral visit was Zhivkov in 1967. Now, Bulgaria continues a low-key support of the VMRO, echoing the old relationship.

Skopje's effort to gain independence has created serious doubts about its success even in Yugoslavia. The questions of the referendum on 8 September, about autonomy, sovereignty and remaining part of a newly-negotiated Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, are contradictory in themselves. Yet the people will be asked to cast their ballot and make a decision that, according to a foreign diplomat,



**Map by classical scholar Siegrid Düll of Macedonia shows ancient centres and the site of Scupi (modern Skopje) lying beyond its borders.**

"opens the doors to questions and problems rather than answering them."

The European Community has reacted anxiously and has taken quick decisions to avert further developments in Croatia and Slovenia. They are the richest and most developed parts of Yugoslavia. Above all, they were once part of the Austrian Empire and, therefore, much closer to Europe historically. But the attempt of Skopje to hold a referendum on independence does not fulfill any of these qualifications.

Yet, even Slovenia and Croatia have not been welcomed into the arms of Europe, although Germany's softened attitude has angered the French. The Americans, sensing the reluctance of a united European front to allowing them to play ball in their own court, has jumped to declare, as George Bush stated, that it is a 'European question'. But this time it was not the Gulf War, and the EC has been decisive not to let the US move onto its own turf. The Balkans, all know, is a difficult area but political analysts believe that Washington is very interested in the area despite its claims and "would not miss a chance to have a footing under any guise because they do not like seeing en bloc a solid European front."

Divided between East and West, with Slovenia and Croatia part of the Hapsburg domains and the rest part of the Ottoman Empire, Yugoslavia is the epitome of the Balkan problem. The attraction of wealthy neighbors incited the urge of Croatia and Slovenia for independence, and the pull of a united Europe has acted as a catalyst. Skopje would like to follow its rich northern brothers, but unable to flirt with Europe, Kiro Grigorov, President of the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, in an act of weakness, visited Ankara in

July to discuss regional issues.

Turkey likes to play a hegemonic hand in the area reminiscent of Ottoman rule. In this, she is supported by a large minority of ethnic Turks existing in Bulgaria and a hundred thousand in Skopje. But Bulgaria shares borders with Turkey, and Ankara, with its foreign policy at its lowest ebb, made a miserable faux pas with the minority in Bulgaria. Closing the borders to the ethnic Turks whom President Ozal had invited with open arms to the motherland three years ago, did not set a good precedent. Ankara, however, seems undaunted, and Skopje is too far away to dampen fears on both sides.

Apart from ethnic Turks, there are a lot of Moslem Albanians in Skopje and the Saudis have also tried in the past to alleviate their economic plight by pouring in money to support their Islamic faith. Even so, these are not compatible groups, even though they share the same religion.

The Ottomans left a difficult legacy in the area with their millet system of dividing population by religion rather than ethnic origins. It became an almost impossible process to disentangle the issues from the chain of nationalist movements and the Balkan Wars. Today, Europe is not willing to see a repetition of previous wars, and the political framework has changed together with our understanding of the historical word 'ethnicity'.

Once more the Balkans are in flux with two currents juxtaposed. One aims at breaking existing countries into smaller units. The other, working at the same time in a parallel way, tries to unite into a greater Europe. It is the strongest which sets the rules, and Skopje, in its narrow nationalism, does not stand a chance. ■

# ASTORIA: LITTLE GREECE



Saint Demetrios Church

**To be Greek and to be human is what Astoria,  
the lively and aromatic enclave of New York,  
is all about**

by Alice Christ

**F**estive bunches of plastic lemons, oranges and vegetables hang behind a takeout counter in 'Opa! Tony's Souvlaki'. A refrigerated showcase features *tzatziki*, *skordalia*, *taramosalata*, and more. Four or five tables line the narrow aisle below murals of Greece and its islands.

Further along there is another room, dark and small, windowless, where the restrooms are, and the kitchen is, beyond which a scene leaps out at the visitor, quickening the heart.

This last room is all windows, opaque, so that the sun streams through a natural light. A trellis is suspended from the ceiling from which baskets of silk plants and flowers cascade voluptuously, like succulent grapes from an arbor, shading diners beneath. A handful of tables are covered with red and white checkered cloths.

An 'outdoor' garden has been created, so totally unexpected, so totally Greece, that the visitor is left stunned. Here is Plaka. Here is Tinos and Andros and Rhodes and Crete. Here is Astoria.

Owners Perdika Zeblakis who was born in Chios, and her husband Georgé, from Crete, lived in Chicago for 33 years before coming to Astoria five years ago.

Perdika makes the appetizers, the *spanakopita*, *pastitsio* and other Greek dishes requiring preparation. "I work 14, 15, 16 hours a day," the stylishly dressed woman says. "We open at 11 am and close at 1 am."

"You are open seven days a week?"

"Yes. We close Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's and Easter." Perdika pauses. "Astoria", she says, "is like being in Greece. When you come here you really cannot tell that you came from Greece to America. You feel like you are in Greece. We like that."

Weather and work permitting, whole families take their evening *volta* very much as they did around their village square. On weekends, the *zaharoplasteia* are filled with Greeks dressed in their Sunday finest. Small children are as much a presence as their parents at the packed Greek clubs and dances.

K & T Meat Market owners, Jerry Haritos from Cephalonia and his Italian-born partner, Charles Cinquemani, estimate that 4000 spring lambs and goats were sold over Easter by neighboring butcher stores. They alone sold 2000.

As in Greece, the lamb is roasted over a pit, and if that is not available it

is done on a terrace, and if one has no terrace, it is not unusual to 'borrow' a neighbor's backyard.

The *World of New York*, published in 1985 by the *New York Times*, writes, "People go to great museums and see the masterpieces of the ages, and then rush... to feed on delicacies from Indonesia and China and Greece, to choose dishes from Rome and Athens and Moscow."

In its chapter "Astoria: Little Greece", we read "...it becomes not at all difficult to imagine that you have been dropped into an Athenian byway, perhaps in the streets of Plaka, and like that lively and aromatic enclave of traditional Athens, Little Greece never closes."

The signature of Hellas is everywhere: tavernas, fruit stands, groceries, *bouzoukia*, priests and grandmothers in traditional black. Anything that can be transported out of Greece, has been, including its smells, tastes and sounds. Alas, there is no Acropolis, no history, no hills, no scenery...

It is estimated that 500,000 Greeks live in New York City. Of these, at least 35,000 registered Greeks are concentrated in Astoria. Fanning outwards, they total upwards of 100,000.

A person can live and function here

for years without learning English. Some immigrants never do. Greek is spoken everywhere. *Ethnikos Kyrix* and *Proini* are two daily newspapers in Greek published in Astoria, along with the weekly *Greek-American*, the *Hellenic Times* and the bi-weekly *Hellenic Voice*. In addition, half a dozen newspapers are flown in daily from Athens.

The influx of Greeks peaked after 1965 when the US Government liberalized its immigration laws. Earlier immigrants were able to develop a better life than the one they left behind, but this is no longer necessarily so.

Along with the levelling off of immigration in recent years, other changes have occurred. Whereas once it was primarily individuals, families now arrive, often with unrealistic expectations, and given the economic crisis, particularly in New York, some families opt to return to Greece.

The quality of life in Astoria may not be better than in Athens, and may be less so, certainly in terms of extended family support, climate, housing costs and crime. It is a fact, however, that Astoria's Greek community is a stabilizing force in the area.

"Mom, what are you talking about?" Greek-American Jean Soterakis, a family counselor for the Hellenic-American Action Committee, tells her mother who is concerned for her safety. "I park my car in a particular area where I am most comfortable. I may spin around two or three times to find it, but the *zaharoplasteia* are opened until early morning hours. You can buy an apple at 3 am. I am in and out all the time. Everyone knows me."

"And you feel secure?"

"I am extremely secure."

**I**nter-marriage is an ongoing concern. For the year 1989, according to the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, 65 percent of marriages performed (6045) were to non-Greeks. This does not take into account civil marriages. Specifically, this percentage rate dropped to 51 percent in the NY Diocesan District which includes Astoria.

Of church unions, 28 percent ended in divorce, 18 percent of which were Greek to Greek (or Greek-American), and 10 percent to non-Greeks. In the New York District, divorce dropped to 10 percent, 6 percent among Greeks, and 4 percent to non-Greeks. There is also the possibility that in the US some persons may simply bypass church-recognized divorce.

One Greek-born American citizen

married his wife in Greece and then brought her to the US. Eventually this marriage ended, but he was already legally divorced and married again in a civil ceremony several years while his Greek divorce was still pending.

Is the issue of marrying non-Greeks a losing battle for the Greek-born parent? Mrs Soterakis does not think so. "Inter-marriages are far more frequent than they used to be. However, here in Astoria, the Greek identity is so strong that children are enrolled in afternoon Greek school; they attend church programs, Greek is spoken on the streets, and many of the inter-marriages take place in Greek churches. Children of these marriages also learn Greek and attend Greek school."

A huge Hispanic community borders Astoria. Most are Columbians, Ecuadorians, and Peruvians. A large number of Greek-Hispanic marriages occur, mostly by young Greek men who have no family in the US. Some of the wives speak Greek with a fluency that is astounding. In effect, many of Astoria's inter-marriages are absorbed into its Greek culture.

At a time when New York City is in a fiscal crisis and funding for community programs is being slashed left and right, HANAC, Astoria's Hellenic-American Neighborhood Action Committee, struggles to aid the community at large, and the Greek population within it.

Up one narrow flight of stairs and over a drugstore, overlooking a heroic (given its concrete environment) tree that prepares to burst forth its buds, HANAC's offices are reminiscent of America's 1930s depression years.

The linoleum is old, walls are spackled and in need of paint, a radiator tilts; yet, there is a kind of unique comfort here, a homespun, non-sterile, quality.

John Kaiteras, Greek-American, whose parents are from Kastoria in western Macedonia, has both the reserved air of a banker and a genuine warmth. As HANAC's Executive Director, he enjoys the overall diversity of his work which includes government funding and appeals to the public sector concerning social needs. Private fund-raising is primarily by the Greek community. When asked what he would like to change about his job, he laughs, "the salary."

Mr Kaiteras believes that, as a group, the Greek immigrant has a greater potential to be politically active than the Greek-American. "So much energy is taken up by Greek politics that very little is harnessed."

The Community School Boards of New York City were decentralized in

1979-1980. To elect the board, all one needed was to have a child in school. "With all the Greeks in Astoria, we never had a school board. A few selected Greeks became very actively involved in pushing that someone be elected. Candidates were publicized and advertised. The community was informed on how to vote, and they came out in droves. It was massive support in a way that the Greek-American would not have tuned into."

Although Greeks look out for each other's children, the lack of extended family support is a primary problem for Astoria's new arrival. Aunts, uncles, cousins are in Greece and generally it is the wife who is the first to experience the pain of this. HANAC aids in acculturation with English classes, training programs, job development, placement and counseling.

A 1975 US census report showed that, among 24 second generation ethnic groups, Greeks were second to Jews in income and first in educational achievement, stressing their concern about education. It is not uncommon for parents to work long and arduous hours to help their children enter the best universities.

Father James Moschovitis, second generation American-born, says his Greek-American mother had a selective type of control over him, the Greek ethos simply put: "Don't do anything to embarrass me."

Moschovitis ministered for 20 years before coming to Astoria where he experienced again the ethnicity of his childhood. "I had missed just being able to walk down the street and get a sense of what it was like when I was a child. To smell the Greek *fournos*, to visit Barba Anybody, to be able to walk into a store and buy a Greek tape without having to order from a catalogue."

As a young seminarian at the Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, Mass., one of his assignments was dealing with substance abuse and alcohol addiction during the turbulent 1960s. Today Father Moschovitis is assigned full time by Archbishop Iakovos as drug rehabilitator in a program licensed since September 1990.

The denial of drug use is high among Greek parents. The appearance of weakness coupled with that wonderful Greek *filotimo*, which is a two-edged sword, often gets in the way of seeking help, or even acknowledging a problem. Additionally, much of the information disseminated by public service announcements is lost to those immigrants who do not read or write English.

"With proper support and education, family members are able to identify what is going on, learn how to deal with it, and recognize their role in the dysfunction that is occurring."

According to Father Moschovitis, the abuse of prescription drugs among high school students in Athens appears to be much higher than their counterparts in Astoria and the street drugs of choice, cocaine and heroin, are evenly divided among the Greek-Americans who consult him. He also estimates that one out of five to seven Greek youths use drugs. "My guess is there is a high drinking population out there as well."

Although there have been some local drug busts of cocaine dealers, one doctor in a drug treatment centre said, "It is common knowledge that Greeks deal in drugs, but the police tend to look the other way because of the low level of crime connected with their business."

Ron Ferrero is a first-generation Italian. He is Crime Prevention Officer at the 113 Precinct District and was born and grew up in Astoria which is the area he covers.

"I'm not being naive, but the Greeks are absolutely no problem. Robbery is virtually unheard of. Sure, there is some drug use, but it is insignificant."

"The children have solid roots. I attribute this to the parochial schools. Parents work 16 hours a day, seven days a week. Eventually they invest in property. If anything, we have had to adjust and conform to their lifestyle." This means walking around the out-

door tables and chairs that suddenly appear on the sidewalks, weather permitting; or providing the necessary police to handle the thousands who march on Good Friday or a saint's name-day.

Finding a Greek priest working full time in an office job is unusual. Greek-American Father Constantine Mangos deals with crime victims and prevention for HANAC. "It is really parish work, only with more intense problems. I understand them. I also like the idea of working for a Greek organization."

Astoria's community includes Hispanics, Irish, Italians, and, recently, Asians. Of crime victims, 25 to 35 percent are senior citizens. "They are victimized a great deal because they are easy targets." This statistic is culled from all ethnic groups, with a very few Greeks among them.

Whether English or Greek is spoken in church continues to be a volatile subject. Many question the church's viability "just because of the language."

"People hold the Greek language as a very important part of the church," Father Mangos says. "It means an actual Greek Orthodox identity... I can understand that as long as those same people... then go to church; send your children to church. The language is Greek, the services remain Greek... Give your faith to the church... Bring it to other people. Show people what you are."

"Are parents who want to retain a Hellenized church able to control their children enough whereby the children

would follow up on that church?"

"There are times I would say they don't have the control, but it is also because they relinquish it, not being able to deal with the society which is engulfing them."

According to Father Mangos, as well as others, there is a strong resistance and antipathy to the inclusion of English services. But, if Greek is to be maintained in church, children who do not speak Greek have to be educated as to what is expected of them in church and how they are being helped.

When the subject is broached to Father Moskovitis, he says, "As a youngster I had a difficult time understanding Greek. We spoke American at home. If you had a priest who only spoke Greek, you were at a loss to what was going on."

Saint Markela and Saint Irene Chri-sovalantou are two Astoria churches where bilingualism is rejected. Saint Demetrios, founded in 1927, is a brick, Byzantine-domed church that boasts the largest congregation outside of Greece. Liturgies are in Greek with English translations. Adjacent to it stands the first Greek-American high school in the United States, Saint Demetrios Parochial School, also the most attended school outside of Greece.

To be Greek and to be human is what Astoria is all about. It is to take great pride in one's heritage, in the accomplishments of a child, in the recognition of a Greek name in the professional limelight. It is to love. ■

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## The Idol's Mask

There's no doubt about it, but we expatriates eat a crazy salad with our meat. And by that I don't mean the increasingly limp *horiatiki* variety reduced in some tourist tavernas to a few wan-looking tomatoes plumped up on a bed of shredded lettuce, but more the kind of outrageous contradictions we are prepared to countenance the moment we leave our native soil.

Take my friend Alexia. She left Canada for Athens because she found North American life arid and dull. Beyond that, though, she wanted to recapture that heady sense of belonging to somewhere dusty and alien and foreign that she experienced each time she and her family visited Greece when she was a child. She wanted to learn Greek, to understand the words of the songs her father played on the guitar, to be a part of that jostling, oppressive intimacy with which Greek people treat each other.

A year and a half later she was ready to return home. She sat on my bed, white-faced and tense, and said that she had had enough.

"Enough of what?" I asked.

"Enough of every single thing that drew me here in the first place."

"Like?"

"Like the lack of amenities."

"But I thought you enjoyed the lack of amenities."

"Well I don't anymore. I want a car, a washing-machine, and a fridge. And a telephone. And garbage-collectors who aren't always on strike."

"What about the people? The language? The music?"

"Maybe it's being in a city, but the people here just aren't how I remembered them to be."

"In which way?"

"All they do is criticize my Greek, and ask me why I'm not married yet.

As far as the music goes, I just can't listen to it anymore, like I can't eat the food and I can't stand the climate. No, I'm telling you, Simon, it's time for me to go home."

Now Alexia's case is a little different from that of the average expatriate, mainly because she had so much invested in this country. To her, every strike, every discourtesy, every crooked taxi-driver was like a personal affront, another crack in the idol's mask.

My sisters and I used to be the same way about Italy.

We'd go there every summer, and return starry-eyed about the food, the music, the lovely stationery to be found in Standa and Upim. But when my mother actually moved there, it was another story altogether. We soon grew tired of Milanese provincialism, of the Italian unwillingness to learn another language, of having to walk along the streets with our handbag clutched to our side.

So what magic ingredient prompts someone to uproot and move to another country? And why is it that sometimes the graft takes, and sometimes it doesn't? I know my initial infatuation with Greece had a lot to do with the previous six months I'd spent in California. My experience there was a clear case of the graft not taking; so much so that much of it seems shrouded in unreality. I used to dream of rubbing my cheek against a lovely old European wall, of leaden skies, of sparring with a crusty Yorkshireman. (The nearest thing to a crusty Yorkshireman to be found in Santa Barbara was an old motorbike mechanic whose garage I used to haunt just for the pleasure of hearing him being rude.)

And so, of course, Athens was a revelation. It was at least a year before I could hear anything said against it, at

least two before I would criticize it myself. And interestingly enough, once that insidious little worm made its presence felt, I found it to be none other than the reverse side of my infatuation. (A clear case of Oscar Wilde's maxim that each man destroys the thing he loves most.)

For example, while I used to rejoice in uneven pavements, I now found them to be a menace; while I considered the idea of *parea* to be healthy and sociable, Greeks told me they were rife with jealousy and backstabbing; while I thought the language was pithy and colorful, it now turned out to be full of ambiguity and slovenliness.

But, of course, we all know that expatriate life is never stable, that in Ruth Praver Jhabvala's words the cycle of hope, indifference and despair is forever renewing itself.

I had given up on Athens so many times, given up on ever finding happiness here, when each time manages to surprise me: wild flowers growing between the cracks in the paving-stones, a railway carriage on the slopes of Kaisariani, a gypsy playing the African drums.

A year after her departure, Alexia and I sit in her car driving beneath a vast Alberta sky. We are listening to Dalaras' "Tora Klais" on the radio; and the words, new, beautiful, utterly out of context, bring tears to my eyes.

"I miss it, you know," says Alexia.

"Miss what? Greece?"

"No, not just Greece. Athens too."

"Enough to go back?"

"Enough to go back."

And I understand it then, the enduring, elliptical quality that draws people to this city, that keeps them here: the knowledge that no matter how deep the rift, how bitter the parting, it will never never run too deep to heal. ■



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Fillellinon 21 ..... ☎ 323-1090  
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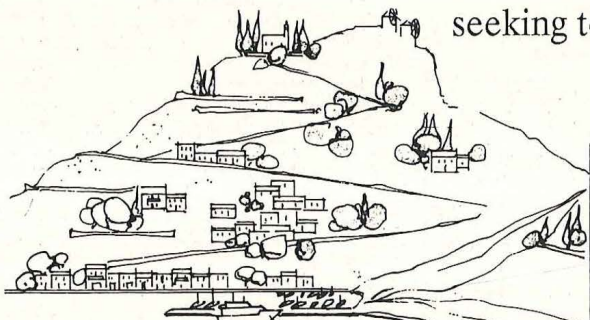
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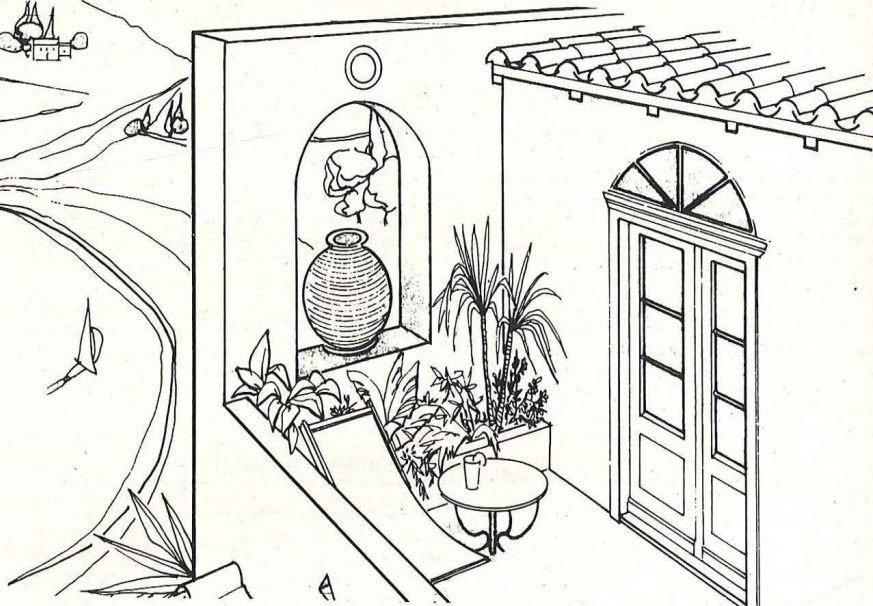
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## Spanish Magic

Cristina Hoyos is famous as the partner of the great Antonio Gades for over 20 years. Now, after Gades retirement, she has been brave enough to start a company of her own. She was born in Seville which is a most appropriate place for a great flamenco dancer as the word itself means the gypsy dances from that area. She started dancing at the age of twelve and danced all over the world with Antonio Gades.

She starred in the film *Blood Wedding* which was based on the poetic drama of the same name written by Lorca. She played a leading role in Carlos Saura's film *Carmen* and a part in the making of the film *Love, the Magician* by Saura and Gades. She is an accomplished actress who has appeared in several television series and won the best actress award in 1989.

The same year, she formed her own company. Their debut was at the Festival of Paris. It was so successful that they performed at the Paris Opera the next year. She received the national dance award from the Spanish Ministry of Culture for her services to the flamenco and Spanish dance. She also received the Andalusian gold medal for the arts.

Cristina Hoyos lives for flamenco. It is apparent when she is on stage that she waits for the moment when the combination of rhythm, sound, color and tension brings her to the point where she is completely taken over by the dance itself. She herself describes it as a fusion of art and soul... a great passionate, romantic love... that helps her discover herself.

Flamenco was originally performed just to the singing voice and the clapping of hands. Guitars were added much later. There is a fixed rhythm and everything plays around that rhythm or counters it. Improvisation and individual interpretation are as important as the ability to become possessed by the dance and allow the audience to become possessed at the same time.

The performance in Athens was



Cristina Hoyos

sheer magic and rather than writing a review I would have preferred to write a poem about my impressions but my abilities as a poet may not have done it justice!

The performance was called *Dreamy Flamencos*, choreography by Hoyos and Manolo Marin. And a dream it was. The performance started with voices only, without microphones, just softly singing and slowly drawing you into the atmosphere. Then Hoyos appeared magically in a magnificent scarlet dress out of the darkness. Then it started. Snake-like arms all fire and tension. The dress swirled. It was primitive magic. The castanets buzzed. Her feet stamped harder and faster. The dress whirled higher and faster. And, as if by her insistence, three men appeared drumming with their feet, releasing the tension into a softer second section.

The different sections of the

choreography flowed one into another and the performance continued without a break. We were continuously drawn into the magic of the flamenco and, by the end, the crowd was enthusiastic. Cristina Hoyos was holding the crowd in the palm of her hand and she could do what she liked with them. All the dancers were good, men included. Each dancer could hold his own but Cristina was the one who could, for brief periods, be really possessed and charmed the audience.

None of the pieces were the usual duet between a man and a woman. They were group dances, which was, refreshing. I liked the fact that she stuck to pure, raw flamenco and did not try to mix it with other dance forms. There is so much there after all. The complicated rhythms with the hands, the feet, the flicking of the fingers, let alone the talent of the musicians whose voices are like a cry from the soul, a pleading with the earth. Indeed, these dances seem to constantly call up contact with the earth itself.

In the second section, with its gentle fast rhythm, I was struck by the fluid, relaxed quality of the muscles of the men's legs, the smoothness of transition of one position to the next. The fourth section for three women and one man started again with those poignant voices singing in the distance and the emphasis for the women seemed to be the sensuous fluidity of the swinging of their hips. The flamenco does have Moorish and Arabic influences.

The performance finished with a cheerful party piece to joyful relaxed singing. Each dancer took his or her turn for a solo and was encouraged and accompanied rhythmically by the rest of the group. This continued right into the encores when each musician danced his own inspired dance, the rest of the group egging him on.

It was a lovely evening and it did give you a feeling of the flamenco's spirit. How exciting it must be in a small intimate setting and not in such a big theatre. ■

# THE HAND-LOOMED FLOKATI

**It is getting increasingly difficult to find, but the shaggy wool rug, woven in the traditional way, a familiar symbol of Greece, is still being made.**

**by Shibly Nabhan**

**A shining, white, soft hand-woven flokati.**

**K**yr' Alekos is a husky, gruff-looking man, with a gentle, patient way and a streak of tradition in his personality, perfect for his kind of work. He runs a small workshop staffed by dedicated artisans just outside Thessaloniki, where the National Highway to Athens begins.

He and his employees are committed to preserving a traditional technique of creating a handmade product that modern machine imitations cannot hope to match. The product they make, with painstaking dedication, is the sheepswool flokati rug, and the shop, Shepherd's Rug, is a business that Mr Alekos Stefanis inherited from his father. In the face of cheaper, lower quality

machine-made substitutes, he vows to continue the business.

The small staff, who call him by his first name, work not only for the money, but for the pride in turning a mangled bundle of sheep's wool into a fluffy, 100 percent natural rug that is exported all over the world. With its long, shabby fibers, the flokati is as much symbolic of Greece as are worry beads and Metaxa brandy. Almost every Greek home has one, and, thanks to Mr Stefanis and the remaining few like him, the distinctive carpet can also be found in homes all over the globe.

Walking into Mr Stefanis' shop, rather than the whirl of machinery or the rattle of large pieces of motor-

driven steel moving frantically back and forth, there is the sound of a hand loom, the clank of wood against wood, the soft swish of fibers on iron frames, the deliberate, careful squeak of foot pedals moving rolls of virgin wool. Occasionally, singing breaks out from inside this most human of factories. Mr Stefanis prepares coffee while talking about his company. The room is furnished with a Spartan simplicity; a small wooden desk covered with correspondence and stacks of rugs of different sizes and colors rests beneath a plank ceiling supported by heavy wooden beams. Taped up on the walls are letters of thanks, of praise, of new orders from satisfied customers. They come from everywhere, from San Francisco to Saudi Arabia.

Lighting a cigarette and drawing it slowly, he runs a hand through salt-and-pepper hair, and in a calm, smooth voice explains the production process which begins on the other side of the world and ends here with a rug of the highest quality, constituted of the best materials. As Mr Stefanis says with sincerity and pride, "here we make a rug that will last a lifetime."

The wool comes from New Zealand, where it is sheared and shipped to Greece. The wool does not come from Greek animals because they are especially bred for meat, hence their somewhat coarser wool. The New Zealand sheep is fed a special diet and is bred specifically for a wool of high quality. Upon its arrival in Greece, the wool is cleaned and woven into several different thicknesses of yarn. From there it is wound onto several long rolls, each containing many strands of the wool. The rolls are then threaded through the hand looms to be woven into what will become a flokati.

There are two main components of the rug: the pile and the backing. Both are made of the same wool, but the backing is made of a more thickly-woven yarn. Mr Stefanis takes the visitor into another room where a flokati is being processed by a mother and daughter on a hand loom. While the daughter stacks several finished rugs, the mother sits on a bench before the loom, working the horizontal rack of yarns at waist-level, while manipulating at her feet a set of wooden pedals that turn the various parts of the loom, threading the yarn through a series of steel eyelets that direct them to the pile and backing. The pile is interwoven into the backing with a series of loops. While making each loop, she passes a small wooden shuttle through the tows of yarn, which carries another thread



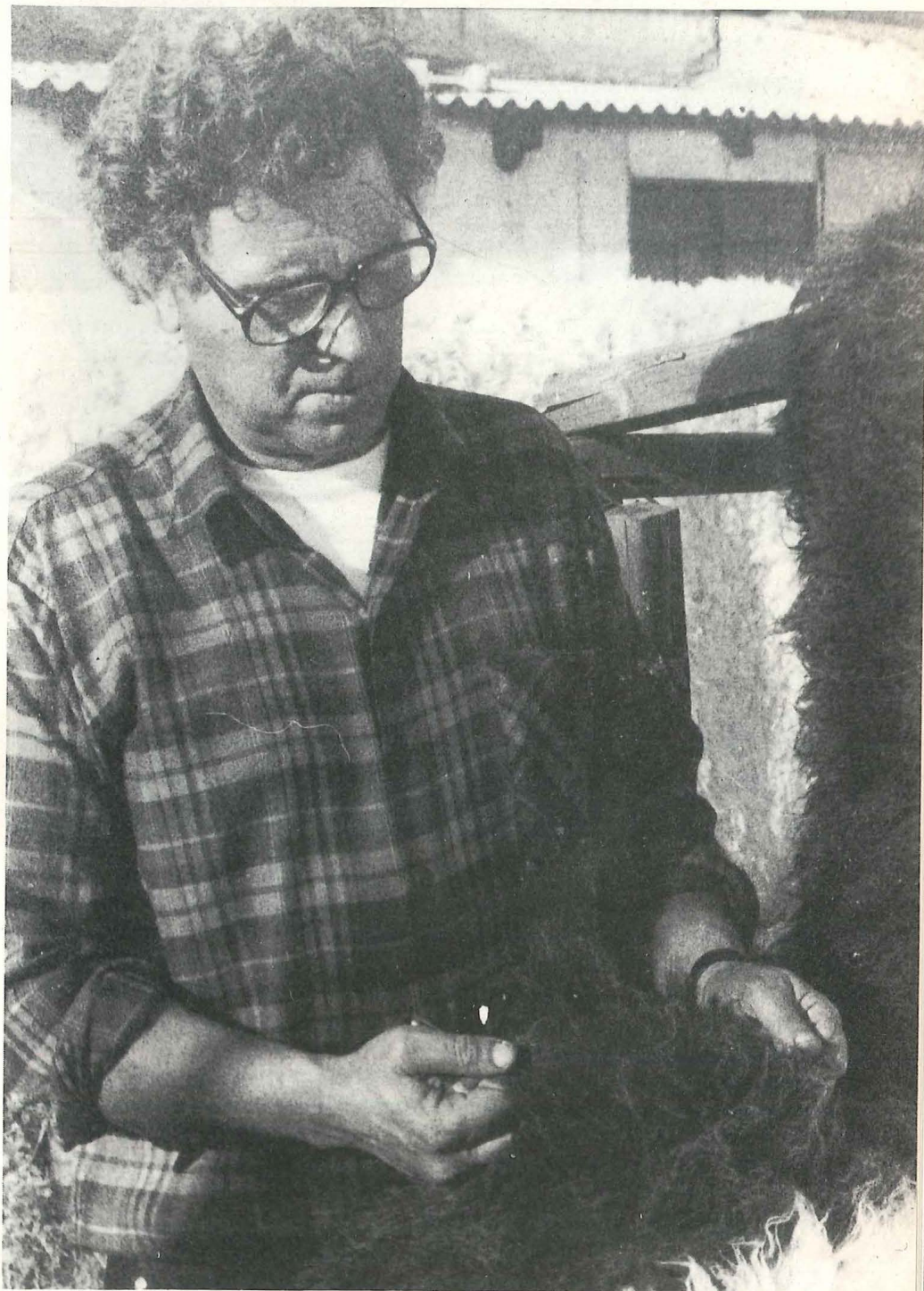
across the pile to separate and bind it. The motions together create a slow symphony of rhythmic clacks, thumps and whirs as cloth, wood, iron and human hands move together in a coordinated, paced motion of stops and starts followed by smooth flipovers and loopings.

This method of production is now rare: only about ten factories still use it, most of them located in northern Greece around Veria and Trikala. The remaining manufacturers produce a machine-made rug which is thinner and has a polypropylene backing instead of wool.

"This product has been defamed by imitators," Mr Stefan says, "whose machine-made polypropylene-backed product is significantly cheaper to produce. We refuse to go that way. We use the same quality wool for the pile and for the bottom of the carpet, that is, the best wool you can find. We must show people that we have an industry that is devoted to quality. It takes half a day to weave a rug, but its quality is apparent. You either make a low-quality product or you do the best."

In displaying a machine-made rug next to one of his deluxe model handwoven flokati, the disparity is striking. The machine-made carpet is barely two centimetres thick, from the thin backing to the top of the pile. But when a hand is pressed down on one of Mr Stefan's rugs, it all but disappears into the pile. The handmade rug is of a better quality too, characterized by a radiant shine, a pure white hue, and a softness unusual for wool. The machine model is dull in color, coarser and less resilient. The pile is so sparse that the backing can be seen through it. If held up to the window, the light shines through. The handmade model is much denser, both in the thickness of the backing and in the pile. However apparent the difference, Mr Stefan explains, many buyers do not take the time to look for the best quality and simply buy what is most readily available.

As the woman at the loom puts the rug together centimetre by centimetre, Mr Stefan tells me about the ups and downs of the flokati industry since he began in the 1950s. At a time when the people and the economy were reeling from the aftermath of civil war, which ended in 1949, an export agreement was made with a Swiss humanitarian group specialized in post-war economic development. The agency, the Association of the Swiss Organizations for Foreign Assistance, helped set up a program by which women earned income by producing flokati in their



**Mr Stefan checking the drying process.**

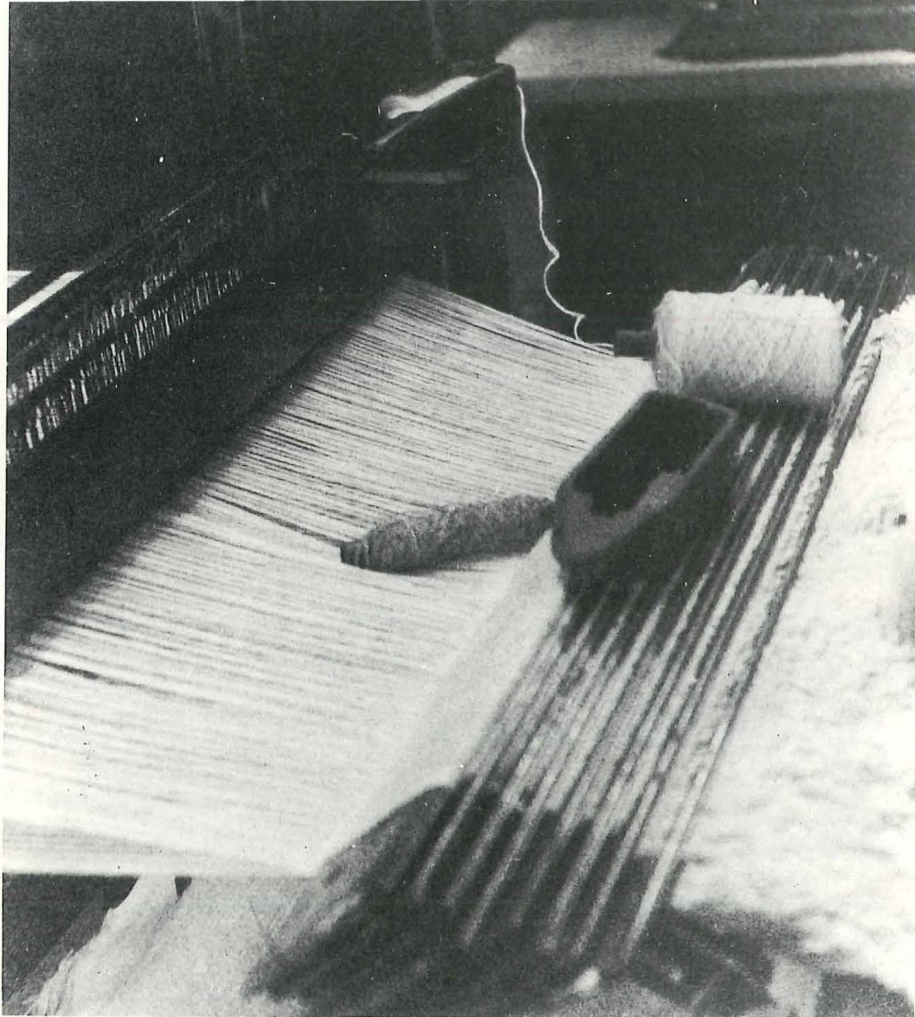
homes, which were then exported through the organization to Switzerland, Germany and other countries. In later years, the export business began to thrive as economic recovery gathered strength throughout Europe. When a sales shop in Glyfada near the Hellenikon military base was opened, Shepard's Rug began to prosper, particularly due to the large foreign population there.

"The military people move around a lot," Mr Stefan remarks. "They found these carpets very practical: just roll one out and the house looks already 'dressed'. In addition, they are easy to care for. You can wash it in a bathtub; you don't need special facilities. Wool drains easily, in contrast to cotton car-

pets and synthetics." Soap, water and sun are all that are needed to clean the flokati rug.

As customers affiliated with the bases travelled on, they informed friends all over the world of these unique rugs. With the departure of the bases, however, the market has experienced a downturn. Presently, Mr Stefan, who learned English as a student at Anatolia College in Thessaloniki, frequently invites tour and school groups to come to the shop to observe a living Greek tradition.

At the loom, the woman repeatedly runs the pile through the backing and over six independent wooden planks. Stopping the foot pedals, she takes a special razor, and runs it over a groove



Overall view of a flokati loom

in the top of each of the planks, cutting the pile and giving it the shaggy-dog appearance with which we are familiar. She pulls the planks away, weaves another set over them, and repeats the move. By using planks of different height, she can lengthen or shorten the height of the pile, making it either short and bristly, or long and shaggy.

The weaver gives a personal touch to each rug, controlling the tightness of the backing, the way the pile is cut and the length of the pile. There is even a special name given to this personal touch: *tsalimi*. Mr Stefas explains *tsalimi* by comparing it to the way a musician controls a piece of music. "It's the softness, the spirit that the woman is putting into the instrument. It's like playing an organ. It's not only necessary to know the notes; you have to put something of yourself into it. Two rugs made on the same loom, but by two different women, will look different."

When the weaving is over, however, the flokati is still not finished. Taking a woven rug from a stack nearby, he indicates the spot where the pile loops through the backing. Pulling a strand of the pile, it begins to come out. "Now, the pile comes off easily. So, we have to find a way of tightening the pile with the bottom." The carpet is therefore run through a river-fed water passage which will effect shrinkage of the car-

pet, tightening the backing around the pile and holding it firmly. "This, for example, which is now 84 centimetres, will come out from the water 75 or 70 centimetres," he says. "This is a primitive way of holding the pile with the bottom, because, in the carpet industry, they are always trying to find ways to hold the pile to the bottom. Sometimes they use latex, or try other ways, but what we do is a unique and 'traditional' way, because it's based on the properties of the wool."

Trucks haul flokati shipments to a water installation in Veria, at a tributary of the Aliakmon River, west of Thessaloniki. They are placed in an outdoor track in the river, using only the natural current of the stream water to process the rugs. They are then trucked back to Thessaloniki, still wet, and put in a steam-heated hot-water tank for about 20 minutes to be disinfected and mothproofed. This done, Mr Stefas and his workers hang the soaking rugs outside to dry in the Mediterranean sun. When dry, they are brought in to be combed and fluffed. Only then is the flokati completed.

Standing in the bright midday light, Mr Stefas concludes "some people see a sunny day and say *this is a good day for going swimming*. I see a sunny day and say *this is a good day for drying flokati*." ■

## IS IT REAL?

*How to tell a genuine,  
high-quality handmade  
flokati carpet  
from a cheap  
machine-made imitation*

Turn the carpet over and look for seams (places where two sections of rug have been sewn together to make it wider). Remember, on a hand loom, the width of the carpet can only be as wide as the span of the worker's hands, about 70-80 centimetres, because the worker must reach far enough to pass the wooden shuttle through the yarns. If the carpet is more than 80 or 90 centimetres wide and has no seam, it has been made on a machine.

Hold the carpet up to the light. Does it block the rays or does the light shine through? If it is so thin that the light shines through, it is probably not handmade, and is certainly not good quality.

How thick is it? Is only a centimetre or so its total height? Then it is a cheap imitation. If the thickness is more than four or five centimetres, and up to eight centimetres, you are holding a high-quality rug in your hands.

Look at the pile. Is it nice and uniform? Then it is handmade. If the pile is mangled, it was made on a fast-moving machine, which can mutilate and sometimes even tear the wool.

Examine the texture of the backing. A good handmade flokati will have the same 100 percent wool as the pile, though a little thicker. A machine-made imitation will have a synthetic polypropylene backing.

Do not worry much about the color. Wool can be dyed in any color without harming it. The natural colors, however, are white, brown and grey. If you are examining a white carpet, check to be sure that it is an even, full white, which is a sign that the wool came from a well-bred, healthy sheep.

# Fly and Dive in Greece

September is back-to-school time and if you want to sign up for a course and stretch out the summer at the same time, how about scuba lessons with Ilse Stroud. Stroud, born in Germany, acquired a passion for water sports in Greece where she has lived off and on for some 20 years. She and her American ex-husband were originally involved in yacht chartering. Stroud started with a snorkel and a mask, and although subsequent employment took them to Saudi Arabia and Brazil, she kept up the diving, advancing through a series of scuba diving courses given by the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI), the largest diver training organization in the world and whose system she now teaches.

"After I finished the Instructor Course, I looked around and realized there was no dive shop in Glyfada," says Stroud from the pleasant surroundings of the Aegean Dive Shop, which she opened in 1982. It is a little old house on a quiet street, the deep front yard complete with a dog house, a couple of cats and a picnic table for outdoor classes. We were interrupted by a half dozen phone calls. It is Stroud's birthday. "I tell everyone I am 31 plus FPA" and an evening beach party is being organized.

"The way PADI works is that anybody who is in good health can dive and we try to make the whole experience a pleasant one. That's why 90 percent of PADI students worldwide take advanced courses, they keep on diving." Elsewhere (Stroud went back to Germany for her German Diving Instructor's license) there is much more emphasis on physical training, swimming and snorkeling, before starting the actual diving.

"With PADI it is more or less the other way round," she says. "You show people what diving is about and then you tell them they should be in good physical condition."

Stroud's students, who represent a broad range of nationalities because she can teach in English, German, Greek, French and Portuguese ("I'm even learning Spanish now"), have to



Dividing instructor Ilse Stroud

fill out a medical questionnaire when they register, and if they answer in the affirmative to any of the questions, they are required to have a medical examination before diving.

Classes usually start every other week throughout the year and all specialty courses require completion of the Open Water course, which involves five theory classes, five sessions in a pool and five dives in the sea. Specialty courses include underwater photography, deep diving, night diving, and search and recovery.

Stroud, who took first aid courses through the American Red Cross and eventually became a First Aid Instructors' Trainer at the US Air Force Base (Hellenikon), also offers an 8-hour audiovisual Medic First Aid course.

"I do the course because all divers should know something about emergencies, but the general public takes it as well because we cover rescue breathing, CPR, choking, bites, cuts, diabetic and epileptic emergencies."

Another skill Stroud picked up along the way is flying. She started private pilot training at the Marathon Airport, studied the theory on her own

and then went abroad to take the FAA (American Federal Aviation Administration) test flight and written exam. She went on to get her commercial and instrument licenses and now owns, with a Greek pilot partner, a six-seater Piper Saratoga which they use for Fly & Dive trips to the Greek islands as well as for general chartering.

"We have a set hourly charge and if it is divided among five passengers, it can often be cheaper than commercial airlines."

Their Fly & Dive trips are usually to Mykonos (there is an off-season weekend package, for example, including the flights, hotel and one dive for 25,000 drachmas) because it is one of the few places in Greece where scuba diving is permitted, a sore subject with Stroud.

"Diving is a relatively new sport and the number of divers increases every year, but Greece just doesn't realize it. Although the Ministry of Tourism is fully behind us, the archaeologists are blocking all Greek waters, driving away tourism by their near-sighted attitudes."

Stroud complains that all the diving schools in Athens, about 10, are forced to train their students in the same small area in Vouliagmeni and that tourists want new places to dive. In fact she was recently fined for diving in Varkiza, an area permitted last year and closed this year. "There is definitely nothing of archaeological value there, just beer cans and pop bottles. It's tragic."

She has just opened a dive center in Crete and, in addition to Mykonos, can take divers to Corfu, Zakynthos and a small place in Halkidiki, but, on the whole, Greece remains forbidden territory.

"I cannot have a group of 20 or 30 people from France or Germany and always take them to the same place to dive," Stroud laments. "I hope the government is going to wake up sometime because their laws keep the fun out of diving and driving tourism away."

*Aegean Dive Shop, Pandoras 31, Glyfada, Tel 894-5409, 895-2698* ■

# Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates

September marks the return to normal life, which, for most children, means back to school. Private schools function as a twin shadow of the state system teaching what state schools fail to cover properly. Since perceived confidence in the state schools is low, the future viability of private educational institutions seems fairly intact in the co-capital.

The largest slice of the educational pie for the last decade has gone to the English language schools as parents attempted to make their children fluent in the international language. Although English is offered in state schools, and should theoretically take students up to an intermediate level, the sad truth is that students usually only pick up the rudiments of the language at best. Consequently, English language schools have sprung up in Thessaloniki like wild mushrooms. The same holds true for the surrounding hinterland with almost every village having a population capable of supporting an English language school. In fact, especially in Thessaloniki, as English language schools have reached the saturation point, only the fittest shall survive. Gone are the days when anyone with a degree in English Literature (from a Greek university) could set up shop and prosper. The trend nowadays is towards modern equipment (videos, computers, libraries, self-access facilities) and modern teaching methods (communicative teaching as opposed to rote learning).

Nevertheless, the success of most English language schools is tied to the exam results of its students. In a nation where bureaucracy reigns everywhere, diplomas, degrees and certifications are all important in proving one's worth. Also, the innate Greek mistrust of anything Greek has dictated that only foreign (mainly British) certification is worth the paper; witness the failure of PALS0 to become established and respected in Northern Greece.

The University of Cambridge has found fertile ground in Greece with Greek candidates representing roughly half of all Cambridge English language exam candidates worldwide. This is due to its name and to its label of seriousness, maintained year after year.

So strong is Cambridge in this country that an unpremeditated symbiotic relationship has developed between the



**Smaro Svarna, organizer for SCHED**

Cambridge First Certificate (Lower) and Proficiency Exams and Greek English language schools in which the latter mainly function in order to prepare students for the former. This may not be pedagogically sound. However, the market demand forces syllabuses, especially at intermediate and advanced levels, to prepare for Cambridge exams.

As a result, preparation becomes so closely linked to the exams that students do not develop the more general skill needed to properly function in an English-speaking environment or even hold simple conversations. Although Cambridge aims at evaluating the candidate's ability to use and understand English via evaluation of speaking, reading, writing and listening skills, preparation focuses on exam specifics rather than communication, thus facilitating forgettability once the tests are over. The problem is more acute in not-so-cosmopolitan Thessaloniki where students seldom have the opportunity to use real English in real situations.

Other English language exams have co-existed with Cambridge in Greece but have progressively become more specific, like TOEFL which qualifies students in English to enter North American universities. In recent years, though, new players entered the arena of English exams.

One such newcomer is the University of London with its Certificates of Attainment in English offered by the

University of London Examination and Assessment Council. It has been offering these exams worldwide since 1982 and have been in Greece since 1990 with SCHED, an educational organization responsible for promoting and conducting the exams in Greece. It is interesting to note that SCHED was first based in Thessaloniki with plans to expand to Athens shortly.

The University of London Certificates of Attainment in English are also part of the more general framework of the European Certificates of Attainment in Modern Language, a consortium of various European educational institutions which aim at establishing an objective system for the measurement of non-native language proficiency in the framework of a multilingual Europe.

Specifically, the consortium intends to meet the demand for a common measure of non-native language ability taken from a multinational rather than national perspective. Having the blessing of the EC, the European Certificate of Attainment in Modern Languages, of which the University of London exams are a part, may indeed have the elusive ring of authority that the Greek public is hungry for.

The exams are theme-based on an 'integrated skills' approach. They follow one scenario which is developed through the various phases. The test questions are task-based, realistic in nature and designed to allow candidates to indicate how much control they have over both receptive and productive uses of English. Although there is a listening test, there is no grammatical section per se, thus preparation does not actively encourage rote learning of grammatical structures. There is no recommended syllabus by the University of London. Preference is given to more general outlines on the type of approaches and skills needed for the exams. Six levels of attainment are offered from Level I which requires a basic knowledge of the language to Level 6 which demands near-native speaker competence. In relation to the Cambridge exams Level 3 is equivalent to Lower and Level 5 is equivalent to a C pass in Proficiency. Levels 4, 5 and 6 are equivalent to successes in GCE Level English Language examination.

Another 'progressive' type of examination now on offer in Greece is the



A happy group of English language school students proudly waving their Lower Certificates. September is month that Cambridge Lower and Proficiency results are made known.

Oxford-Arels Examination in English as a Foreign Language. Although Oxford-Arels opened accredited exam centres in 34 countries, it arrived only recently in Greece. Oxford-Arels consists of two separate exams from two separate, but jointly conducted, bodies, the University of Oxford Delegacy of Local Examinations and the Arels Examinations Trust. The Oxford Exams test writing and reading skills while the Arels examine speaking and listening skills.

As in the case of the University of London Exams, there is greater emphasis

on the candidate's ability to communicate effectively rather than accuracy per se and questions try to be as practical and true to life as possible. There are two levels of accreditation available for Oxford-Arels, Preliminary and Higher, and the former also has a junior counterpart for candidates aged 12-17. A pass with Distinction in the Preliminary Exam is considered equivalent to a C pass in Cambridge's Lower and a Credit pass in the Higher is equivalent to a C pass in Proficiency.

There are nowadays many English language exams to choose from in

Thessaloniki and students would be wise to carefully consider the alternatives in accordance to their needs and abilities. One thing, however, remains certain, as long as Greeks continue to be obsessed with formal qualifications for foreign languages, foreign languages exams will continue to prosper in this country. ■

*Correction: Last month, our article mentioned that there were only three open air cinemas left in Aristotelous Square, whereas it should have read in all of Thessaloniki. We hope our readers will forgive us.*

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# Farewell to her, to Alexandria

## The Greeks in Egypt, 1919-37: Ethnicity and Class

Alexander Kitroeff.

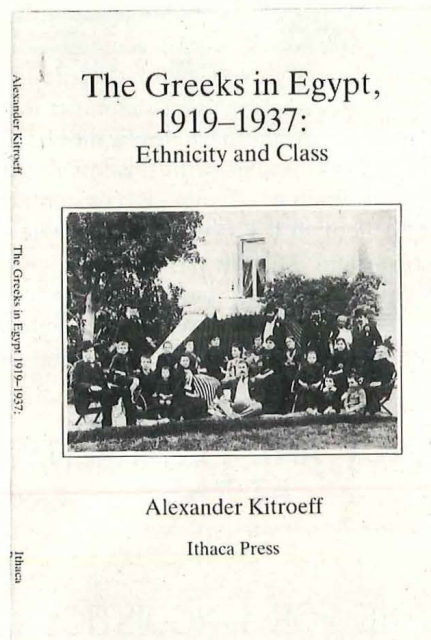
St Anthony's Middle East Monographs No. 20.  
Ithaca Press, Oxford OX2 6EP, 1989. pp 212.

Greeks have always been great colonizers, however unfashionable that word is today. Their talent for adaptability seems to have grown the farther they got away from home. Inevitably, some colonies work out better than others, depending on local conditions. Today, villas in Kifissia built by Alexandrian millionaires at the turn of the century are being integrated into shopping malls. Meanwhile, in Tarpon Springs, Florida, a gentleman of Hellenic descent in his split-level condominium may be thinking about running for the US House of Representatives or, perhaps, his wife, for her forebears were Greek too.

"Manoli mou, why do you bother with politics down there in the city when you can lie back so comfortably on your cotton?"

Like most oft-repeated, direct quotations in Greek history, this one, too, is probably apocryphal. Tradition has it that the venue was the terrace at Anavryta, the estate of the late banker, Andreas Syngros, in Kifissia. The query came from widow Iphigenia Syngrou, the *grande dame* of Greece however Queen Olga might have wished it otherwise. The person to whom the question was addressed, Emmanuel Benakis. The time: 1913. Benakis, an ardent Venizelist, was running for Mayor of Athens, and he won.

Before he had been infected with the virus of Greek politics (GPV), Benakis was best known as founder and chairman of the board of Choremi, Benachi & Co, the largest cotton export firm in Egypt and rumored to be the richest Hellene alive. His father had narrowly averted slaughter in the massacre at Chios, 1822, immortalized



Alexander Kitroeff

The Greeks in Egypt 1919-1937

Ithaca

by Delacroix. His father-in-law, Constantine Choremis, had not been so fortunate. While he escaped, his wife and two children were butchered by the Ottomans. Like a true Greek, however, Choremis rolled with the punches, and begat 16 children on his second wife. The last married Benakis, and together they became leaders of a brilliant and cosmopolitan society in Alexandria which lasted until after World War II.

Professor Kitroeff has written a scholarly monograph, concentrating on certain sociological aspects of the Greek community in Egypt late in the heyday of its century-long prosperity. While full of fascinating detail, it tends to set to one side the extraordinary events of its origins.

The Greek community in Egypt as it is described and circumscribed in this book came into existence early in last

century. Its emergence was closely linked with the figure of Mohammed Ali, an Albanian adventurer who made himself master of Egypt in the aftermath of Napoleon's campaign, often lording it over his master-only-in-name, the Sultan.

With all due respect to Greek War of Independence heroes and philhellenes, Mohammed Ali was the dominant figure during the first half of the 19th century in Eastern Mediterranean.

Among his many accomplishments must be mentioned: the massacre of all the beys of the Mameluke class at one banquet, the conquest of Sudan, the subjection of Arabia, the foundation of modern Alexandria, the opening up of trade with Europe and the introduction of cotton.

In some of the more practical and longer-lasting accomplishments of his career he was ably assisted by an enterprising Greek, Michael Tositsas of Metsovo, a prominent mountain village in Epirus near Ioannina where the other great Albanian leader of the period ruled, Ali Pasha.

Tositsas' father had set up a fur export company in Salonica in 1797 when the boy was 10. Taking over the business shortly before 1820, Michael sent his younger brother, Theodoros, to nearby Kavala to open a branch office. Mohammed Ali had been born in Kavala, and being closely attached to his birthplace, he had requested and been granted the pashalik of Kavala and Thasos from the Sultan. The agents of the Khedive soon discovered the entrepreneurial talents of the young man, and they persuaded him to seek a brighter future in Egypt. Shortly thereafter, Michael, on his way back from Malta and Leghorn following the mer-

cantile route that Greek traders were already following, stopped himself in Alexandria.

It appears that Mohammed Ali took a fancy to him on first acquaintance. He soon made him general manager of his vast private estates confiscated from the Mamelukes and gave him extensive lands. In turn, Tositsas consulted its cultivation with the French cotton production expert, Jumel. Tositsas brought down other relatives from Metsovo, including his brother-in-law Stournaras, and from these modest beginnings grew that great wealth of which the Greek Kingdom became chief benefactor. The National Metsovion Polytechnic in Athens is only the best known of their many beneficent foundations in Greece and Egypt.

The outbreak of the Greek War of Independence the year after Tositsas' first meeting with Mohammed Ali in no way jeopardized the fortunes of this nucleus of Greek traders. In fact, the Greek community in Alexandria flourished in the 1820s even while the Khedive's son, Ibrahim Pasha, was ravaging the Peloponnese on the orders of the Porte.

Following the foundation of the independent Greek state, Michael Tositsas was appointed first Greek consul in Alexandria. As the new Kingdom grew in confidence and the Greek community in wealth, the Consulate came into conflict with the ancient Alexandrian Patriarchate and the distinctions of ethnic as opposed to national considerations became acute. These two subjects figure prominently in Mr Kitroeff's careful layout of a complex but fascinating account of a subject little explored in English.

In the early 1850s Greece was granted the economic status known as the Capitulation System which quickly became the foundation of the community's commercial prosperity. Twenty years later, Alexandria had grown to become the fourth largest Mediterranean port in tonnage, and Greeks made up a third of its population.

This ancient Ottoman arrangement for protecting the European trading communities and granting extraterritorial rights was to encourage capitalistic investment from Europe and thus benefit and stimulate trade. But as this system granted no local political rights, it tended to unify communities by citizenship and isolate them both from local affairs as well as other foreign communities. So, as Egyptian nationalist movements emerged in this century,

the foreign communities were unable to work out a unified policy to cope with them.

At the same time a strain within the community emerged between Hellenes with Greek citizenship and those who were, as they say, 'unredeemed'. Indeed, through most of the 19th century the unredeemed Greek communities of Constantinople and Smyrna were far more prosperous and sophisticated than those in the fledgling Kingdom. And it was to other such communities scattered throughout the Ottoman Empire, that the proud, ancient but poor Alexandrian Patriarchate had addressed itself ever since the Arab conquests.

The establishment of the Consulate in 1833 and, in consequence, the foundation of the Greco-Egyptian Orthodox Community, which eventually was restricted to persons of Greek citizenship, alarmed the Church.

"The Church," Mr Kitroeff writes, "was understandably unwilling to support a policy which would result in the transfer of the allegiance by Greeks in the Ottoman territories... to the Greek state... In Alexandria, the weakness of the Church, the growing allure of nationalism, the arrival of new emigrants following the establishment of the Consulate and, perhaps most important of all, the authority vested in the Consulate by the Capitulatory System, enabled the Consulate to win the struggle against the Patriarchate."

If the first-generation Greeks in Alexandria were pioneer traders who worked exclusively with foreign capital and the export trade within the mercantile network which had outlets in Trieste, Leghorn, Marseilles and Odessa, the second also dealt in domestic banking and commerce. It was exemplified by a younger relative of Stournaras, also from Metsovo, George Averoff. A financier in the modern capitalist sense, he dealt in all forms of commerce and amassed a great fortune. As another national benefactor, Averoff presented Greece with a cadet school, the Royal Navy with its flagship, Athens with its first reform school (later prison), and contributed massively to the first revival of the Olympic Games by donating its totally reconstructed Pentelic marble stadium.

The third-generation Greek-Egyptians developed the resources of domestic raw materials and labor. Although cotton had been introduced in the early part of the century, it only became 'king' in the 1860s during the American Civil War when the North

blockaded Southern exports and the starving European textile industry turned in desperation to Egypt.

The greatest of these textile moguls was Emmanuel Benakis. He emigrated to Alexandria in 1866 at the beginning of the cotton boom. Two years later he married Virginia Choremis whose family had established a textile outlet in Liverpool in 1858. The firm Choremi, Benachi, BR. as it was called, came into being in 1876. For decades, it handled over 20 percent of the total cotton exports of Egypt.

The British occupation of Egypt in 1882, if anything, further stimulated the cotton business since the English far and away had the greatest manufacturing interests. British-Greek ties grew closer, personified in the marriage of Benakis' eldest daughter, Alexandra, to the son of his Liverpool-based partner, Thomas Davies.

By the turn of the century there were 40,000 Greeks in Egypt (and nearly double that number in 1930). It was the largest and most prosperous foreign community in the country, being double that of the English and quadruple the French. Only the Italian community came close in numbers. Though the great majority lived in Alexandria, Greeks were the only foreigners who truly integrated throughout the country, living up to the adage, "Wherever there is human settlement, you will find a Greek." In 1911 the former British High Commissioner of Egypt, Lord Cromer, wrote:

"The Greek pushes his way into the most remote parts of the Sudan and Abyssinia. Wherever, in fact, there is the smallest prospect of buying in a cheap and selling in a dear market, there will the petty Greek trader be found. In 1899 I visited Sarras, some thirty miles south of Wadi Halfa. It was at that time the furthest outpost of the Egyptian army, and is situated in the midst of a howling wilderness. The post had only been established for a few days. Nevertheless, there I found a Greek already selling sardines, biscuits, etc., to a very limited number of customers, out of a hole in the rock where he had set up a temporary shop."

Such a large community naturally contained all classes. The pioneer traders originally, of course, had no social position but rose to being 'first-class Greeks', according to author Stratis Tsirkas as quoted by Professor Kitroeff, and later comers like Benakis were at first 'second-class Greeks' but with wealth rose to join the 'old' families. For example, the youngest Be-

nakis daughter, Argini, married a Salvagos. "An invitation to one of the Salvagos garden party," the author remarks "was a reliable confirmation of a person's high social standing and, more often than not, Greeks were a minority on the guest list."

Although there was a good deal of intermarriage among the first families, the Alexandrian Greeks were a very cosmopolitan lot. The Choremis had first settled in Liverpool, the Salvagos in Marseilles, the Synadinos in Trieste, the Cavafys in Constantinople and the Rallis clan was spread in every commercial port from London to Odessa. Another Benakis daughter, author Penelope Delta, kept her memoirs mostly in French but, in recording the secrets of the heart, turned to English.

Delightful in both languages, these records are invaluable social documents of that long vanished age, gone with the *Khamsi*.

If the first two generations of the Hellenes in Egypt had been supporters of royalty in Greece and, politically, of Deliyiannis and his 'megali idea' and were culturally strongly French, the later generations backed the anglophile Trikoupis, drew closer to the British commercial world and later turned to Venizelos and republicanism. Benakis became a firm supporter, settled in Athens and joined Venizelos' first cabinet.

Although, commercially, cotton was the reigning commodity throughout this period, the international popularity of the Egyptian cigarette was the outcome of enterprising Greeks. The climate of the Delta, however, was unsuitable for the cultivation of high quality tobacco, and it had to be imported from Thrace, Macedonia and Greece. "The volume and value of tobacco imports was so great, and the government's need to bolster its receipts from duty so urgent," writes the author, "that they became an important source of government revenue."

Nestor Gianaclis was the first and most colorful of these Greek tobacco merchants. He was born in Komotini and began manufacturing cigarettes in Cairo in 1869. During the British occupation of 1882, Khedive Tawfiq ordered 50,000 cigarettes from Gianaclis to give British officers at a dinner party, who became immediately addicted. It is said this event led directly to the popularity of Egyptian cigarettes in England. Gianaclis expanded out of Egypt, setting up factories in Frankfurt, Geneva and even in the land of Virginia leaf itself, in Bos-

ton. His close rival, Melachrinos, did the same, setting up a factory in New York and was immensely successful. During the 'orientalizing' fads of the Roaring 1920s and 30s, playing mah-jong, wearing Mitsouko perfume and smoking Melachrinos ovals all went together.

Gianaclis spread out into viticulture too, reviving an industry that had died in antiquity. Gianaclis wine is still made in Egypt, "the best whites being *Cru des Ptolémées* and *Reine Cléopâtre*, while best known red is *Omar Khayyam*," our knowledgeable author informs us.

Given the great overall size of the Greek community, inevitably "in terms of class, the great majority... was located within the petty bourgeoisie..." and retailing "came to be identified with the ubiquitous Greek grocer. One writer complained that 'the Greek, the apostle of civilization, is rewarded in Egypt by being called a *bakal*.'"

Well into the interwar years, few members of the upper class in the Greek community doubted that a bright future lay before them in Egypt. It was the petty bourgeoisie which first came to harbor doubts.

The nationalist movements gained momentum due to the hardships felt by Egyptians during World War I. Nationwide riots broke out in 1919. A number of Greeks were killed in the May 1921 riots in Alexandria. For the rich living in exclusive suburbs the shock effects soon wore off, but those who lived in the poorer districts took fright. In the provinces, the situation was worse and shopkeepers gave up and moved to the greater safety of the large cities. Unionism began spreading. In consequence, came strikes that sharpened ethnic tensions.

More ominous for the wealthy was the movement to end the Capitulation System on which the whole community was financially structured. It was an antiquated system in the course of being abolished elsewhere, yet the powerful foreign sector seems not to have made any effort to propose a different sort of arrangement.

"There was no organized or formal means of contact among the communities by which they could exchange political views and the outbreak of the nationalist movement, which jeopardized their future, did nothing to alter the situation. No doubt opinions were exchanged at cocktail parties in the villas at Ramleh and in the bars and

restaurants in the business district, where cotton brokers and other businessmen met; and in other parts of the country as well. But, in spite of such close daily contact, the foreign communities made no attempt to close ranks and present the British and the nationalists with a united political front. Each community remained confined to its own national interests and policies," writes the author.

Though long overdue, the Montreux Convention in 1937 which abolished the Capitulations in Egypt caused a profound political change that the foreign communities could do nothing about. Both the Community and the Patriarchate were so steeped in traditional national ideology, according to the author, that they were unable to come up with new answers to pressing problems. The Asia Minor disaster of 1922 had destroyed the Hellenic irredentist movement, and the dynamics of Greek emigration had long since turned to North America. Even at the time of the 1929 economic crisis, a spokesman of the Greek community publicly lamented, "Day by day, Hellenism in Egypt is losing ground in the land of its ancestors." The author adds pungently, "This attitude was hardly conducive to a smooth transition from privileged to minority status."

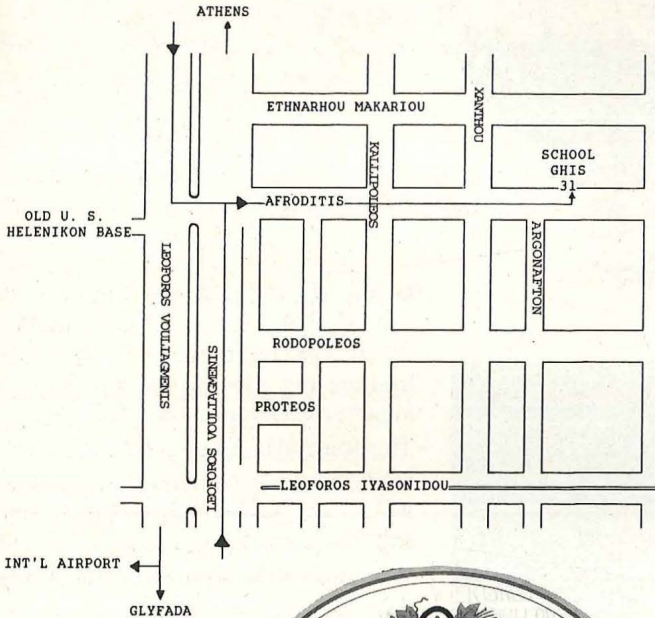
World War II and the British reoccupation of Egypt, as painted in the sunset hues of Stratis Tsirkas and Lawrence Durrell, provided only a brief respite. The more modest and penetrating eye and pen of Maria Iordanidou had seen the writing on the wall a generation earlier. And it may well account for that dying fall felt throughout the poetry of Cavafy: *κι αποχαιρέτα την, την Αλέξανδρεια που χάνεις*.

Even before the emergence of Nasser and the events which should have dictated a more integrationist strategy for the Greeks in Egypt decades before, "thousands of them voted with their feet by leaving Egypt in the 1940s." "It was inevitable," Mr Kitroeff concludes, "that as the Egyptians gained their true independence, the Greeks would lose 'their' Alexandria."

Focusing on specific sociological aspects of a huge subject during the interwar years, Mr Kitroeff has written a scholarly study rounded out with fascinating detail. To achieve this goal, he has also illuminated a historical and social panorama which, by bringing back to life a brilliant Levantine mercantile society, will attract the general reader to a world that has been so little written about in English. ■



The GREEN HILL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL opens a new campus in Hellenikon at a short distance from the ex-US base and Vouliagmenis Avenue. The new school will accept students from kindergarten through Grade 7 while the main campus in Kifissia will function as usual. The curriculum is American, the language of instruction is English with a choice of a second language among French, Arabic, Greek or German starting from kindergarten. Greek children are accepted in kindergarten and elementary students with limited English skills can make use of the EFL (English as a Foreign Language) program available. 31 Afroditis St. Tel: 801-7872.



VILLA MARIA Hotel-Apartments (1st class \*\*\*\*) is a neoclassical mansion, recently restored to its former glory in Ermoupolis, on Syros. Equipped with all modern comforts and furnished with selected antiques, the apartments of Villa Maria provide the best accommodation for holidays that combines grand style with *philoxenia*. Enjoy your breakfast on the roof garden with traditional homemade marmalades, wholewheat bread and a selection of village cheeses. Practice wine tasting from the rich selection of Greek and other wines at the wine bar. Villa Maria will be open all year round and is certainly worth a visit. At 42 Hydras street, Ermoupolis, Syros. Tel: 0281-26536, Fax: 0281-27410.



**GROLSCH PREMIUM LAGER**  
 is a long established brand recently imported from The Netherlands. You will spot it immediately on the shelves thanks to its unique and very practical swing-top, green bottle. Its characteristic light and soft content is also available in different packagings. However, the bottle with the wire stopper will keep your lager fresh in the fridge even after tasting it. If there will ever be any left over, that is, which is rather unlikely. GROLSCH lager does not undergo pasteurization at and, as a result, its natural taste is unaffected. Cheers everybody! Can I, please, keep the bottle?

The 56th Thessaloniki International Fair is to take place between 7-16 September. On 200,000 square metres, 3400 exhibitors from 50 countries will present the most interesting goods and services. Along with its strong commercial aspect, Thessaloniki International Fair has acquired a reputation for an excellent public relations outpost, a good place to present a company's image. Following a tradition, the Prime Minister is expected to present the economic policies for the upcoming year at the opening of the Fair. If you cannot be there, the media will keep you posted.

Maybe the mythical sirens did not charmed Ulysses but the SIRENS of 1991 will lure you with their Greek hors d'oeuvres. The interior design of ouzerie SIRENS displays parts of Syros original handicrafts created by Katerina Roussou, friend of the owners. The ouzerie offers a wide variety of food, good music and a friendly atmosphere. A must while on Syros!



Compiled by Theodosia Dacoglou

# Seasoned Veterans and Young Go-Getters



Since private network Antenna Channel was launched on New Year's Eve 1989, less than a couple of months after Mega Channel, its slogan has been "We Try Harder." It has paid off as Antenna steadily increased its viewing share and has been neck and neck in a ratings battle with Mega for some months.

AGB Hellas showed Antenna topping the ratings for the first time in the week 15-21 July, pulling in 29.24 percent of the viewer share and just barely encroaching Mega, which scored a 29.13 percent share. Public stations ET1 rated 15.85 percent and ET2 trailed with 6.14 percent. For 22-28 July, Antenna still led by a hair with 29.29 percent, Mega rated 29 percent, ET1 followed with 15.8 percent while ET2 had 6.35 percent.

In December, 1988, TV Plus, was the first to crack the 21-year-old Greek government monopoly, with broadcasts in connection with the municipality of Piraeus. TV Plus is now Athens' first paid TV station, programming quality feature films only, which can be received by subscribers after a decoder is installed. "We have a waiting list for decoders," said TV Plus Managing Director, Daniel Bourias. "We can't keep up with the demand."

Mega, launched in November 1989, was the first and only station to air with a special four-month pre-license agreement. This expired long ago and the government has not issued regular permits to Mega or any other applicant, including Antenna, which began with a 42-hour marathon on New Year's Eve 1989.

Antenna Managing Director, Minos Kyriakou, a shipping tycoon and entrepreneur who was educated at Col-



**Minos Kyriakou, Managing Director at Antenna**

umbia University and lived in the United States for many years, explains "We are very pro-American here." He attributes much of Antenna's success to its imitation of American networks' style in programming and news coverage. Kyriakou acknowledges the influence of its consultants Magid, an American corporation which once advised ABC and Nikos Mastorakis of LA-based Omega Productions.

During an interview at his posh offices in Marousi a few days after Antenna moved into first place in ratings, Kyriakou admitted, "I feel a bit nervous now that we're in the top position; I'm very aware of the threat of Mega."

Kyriakou is not quite sure how he

ended up in the media business but confessed now that he is, he is hooked.

"In 1987, a journalist in the States told me the government was going to allow private radio and TV stations." This spurred him to return to his homeland and open Antenna radio station, which was an immediate success and still has very high ratings. The TV station was the logical next development.

"Kyriakou is eager and ever-present, a driving force," comments Antenna General Manager, Jason Moscovitis. "He was born for this industry." This opinion seems to be echoed by the rest of the staff and the general impression one gets during a visit to the station is one of high energy and enthusiasm.

Kyriakou has a staff of seasoned veterans, such as Moscovitis and Deputy General Director Spilios Charamis, in key positions, augmented by a younger group of go-getters. "We use 'headhunters' to locate Greek students studying in the States and we have some of our production team getting on the job experience over there right now. Young people are our hope for the future." Kyriakou stresses "Our staffers are very well remunerated but they must be productive or find another job." Kyriakou smiles as he says, "They call me 'The Dictator' here; but I feel in this business it is necessary to have one person make the decisions."

Kyriakou's image as a hard-nosed businessman is mellowed by his attachment to his three children Xenophon, Theodoris and Athina whom he raised by himself after divorcing nine years ago. "Raising them was the best part of my life. Nothing, neither the television business, nor the shipping, comes be-

fore them.”

Objective news coverage, a concept most viewers found lacking in state TV, has always played a key role in private networks success. Moscovitis says “Our American approach to news broadcasts, utilizing short items, a fast pace and strong visuals, all softened by a ‘European sensibility’ greatly contributes to our success. Above all, we are objective and accurate. The public stations are mouthpieces of the state.”

Recently, Antenna soared ahead in ratings for primetime news coverage. Antenna’s ratings for the 8:30 news program, have been averaging 50 percent, sometimes exceeding 60 percent, often double Mega’s percentage.

Antenna has been especially aggressive in its pursuit of exclusive interviews and breaking stories, and no expense has been spared to achieve this. Kyriakou’s private jet was used to transport Kostas Kiappe, a sports official who had fled to Switzerland, back to Greece so that he could give an exclusive interview on the air about a soccer scandal which resulted in threats on his life. News director Alekos Rigas flew to Massachusetts to interview jailed ex-banker George Koskotas. Two interviews with ex-King Constantine in London were highly controversial and broke his long media-imposed silence. “We have no taboos at Antenna,” according to Spilios Charamis. “We take risks and it has paid off.”

Observers cite several notable factors that weakened Mega’s reputation in news coverage. Late last winter a Mega newscaster, not realizing she was on the air, made a remark that sounded to some as though she was using a rude epithet to refer to former prime minister Papandreou. Because the incident was so ambiguous, she was reinstated to her duties after a brief hiatus.

More damaging was Mega’s delayed coverage of the Gulf War. Antenna began live on-the-spot coverage by five reporters and crews at the same time as CNN and three other networks. Mega’s key personnel had left the station and video clips were being shown when the war broke. Its news coverage started several hours later.

To complicate matters, Mega News Director Jason Moscovitis left the station in February after conflicts with management. Per Moscovitis, “One of the five publishers in the consortium which owns Mega felt my coverage of the Gulf War was too pro-American. I

said I let the facts speak for themselves.” The veteran concluded, “I thought it was better to quit than to make compromises.” Moscovitis has now joined Antenna as General Manager.

“There’s no doubt our delayed coverage of the Gulf War hurt us,” admitted John Kalimeris, Mega’s Director of Productions and Commissions. He added, “Moscovitis left Mega on his own free will.” Commenting on the battle for news coverage ratings, Kalimeris said, “We are discussing some changes in our news coverage to make it more appealing to general audiences. We’ve had feedback from viewers indicating they prefer our more serious BBC-like approach; yet they confess they watch Antenna’s news.”

“We have the same news at the same time,” says Kalimeris, “But more viewers are watching Antenna.” He discounts Antenna’s ‘American approach’ as the clue to their success and instead attributes it to “the ability to maintain continuity between the entertainment level and news broadcasts.”

Public channels ET1 and ET2 lag way behind in news broadcast ratings although ET1 often gets phenomenal shares of over 50 percent in live daytime coverage of the Bank of Crete embezzlement trial, drawn out over several months, which implicates former prime minister Andreas Papandreou. Star witness was ex-banking tycoon George Koskotas, who testified after being released from a Massachusetts jail. The trial provided both drama and comic relief, particularly during a lengthy debate over how many bank notes could fit into an empty diaper carton, allegedly used to deliver embezzled bank funds to Koskotas’ business associates.

Mega’s Kalimeris also conceded that Antenna’s lineup of feature films had boosted its ratings. Program Acquisitions Chief, Canadian-born Kostas Andreopoulos, who was recruited from ET2 says, “I strive for a well-balanced slate.” This is vigorously promoted by eye-catching trailers developed by Antenna’s promotion department, the first of any station here, headed by Guy Grossman who was with ABC for 14 years.

About 90 percent of Antenna’s foreign programs are American. “One of our strategies is to try out series and drop them if they don’t do well in ratings,” explains Andreopoulos. “This

is the procedure all over the world but the public stations here will continue series even though the ratings are poor.”

Homegrown soap operas such as Mega’s *The Thirst* and Antenna’s *The Family* have scored exceptional ratings. Both Mega and Antenna will increase their production level next season. Antenna, which will have produced 2000 hours of its own productions by the end of 1991, recently announced the ground-breaking on a fourth studio in a northern Athens suburb. When completed, it will cover 50,000-square feet.

These ambitious plans are being undertaken with an eye on future co-productions, which will be even more in demand when the EC quota of at least 50 percent European productions on TV networks will be fully in effect in 1993. “While upgrading our facilities, I must stress this is definitely a country in which to do an economic production,” said Kyriakou. “We have knowledgeable people and the ability to shoot anything here.”

According to Mega’s Kalimeris, new episodes of the *The Thirst*, the most popular of Greek soap operas, may be produced and aired on a Monday to Friday basis. Antenna is now producing 2500 episodes of the *The Shining*, a new soap opera with a huge cast directed by veteran Nikos Foscolos, which will premiere on a Monday to Friday basis in mid-September.

*The Shining*, along with Antenna’s lush 14-episode musical *The Merry Widow* starring stage legend Aliki Vouyouklaki, will be two of the highlights of the package of programs Antenna will be presenting at the MIP-COM television marketplace in Cannes in October. Mega representatives, including Kalimeris, will attend but will not be selling their own programs.

Personnel at both Antenna and Mega acknowledge that the intense competition is stimulating. “It’s fun,” according to Charamis. “The more competition you have, the better you’ll be.”

Both Andreopoulos of Antenna and Kalimeris of Mega say the challenge is to put together the most interesting program and both are confident their fall lineups will be well received. The battle between the two stations will intensify in the coming months and viewers will no doubt come out on the winning end as they are treated to an even more tempting selection. ■

# Recycling: Problems and Solutions, an Ending or a Beginning?

*"You are either part of the solution or part of the problem"*

*Attributed to (Leroy) Eldridge Cleaver*

## Part vi

**T**he magic name of Katmandu now generates the mystical Kingdom of Nepal 64 million US dollars a year, including 3000 US dollars fees for the climbers of Mount Everest. The problem is that these climbers are covering the once pristine slopes with tons of trash. The solution might be to divert part of the fees for cleaning up and to demand deposits returnable upon proof that their refuse has been brought back down.

When Sir Hilary, with Tenzing Norgang, conquered the summit in 1953, as a coronation present for Queen Elizabeth he left oxygen cylinders which are still there. He now believes that the mountain should be closed for five years to allow it to regenerate itself.

Pitcairn Island, another name evoking memories of thrilling adventure because of its connection with the Bounty Mutiny, is the nearest inhabited island to Ducie Atoll, 475 kms away. This South Pacific atoll, 3000 miles from New Zealand, and one of the remotest spots on earth, is covered with trash washed in by the sea.

It is refuse thrown overboard by those flouting international conventions which prohibit such sea-going littering and whose trash reaches these shores from thousands of miles away. Mount Everest and Ducie Atoll are on opposite sides of the planet, literally miles apart in height, yet man defiles both with casual unconcern.

There is hope, however. As we reported, cities everywhere, even Athens with its periodic strike-bound mounds of garbage, are making a start to clean up.

We have always maintained that a great deal of the problem lies in unimaginative solutions. If industry, as we

suggested in the last installment, recycled in new inventive ways, much of the total problem would be resolved.

Paper, one of the biggest headaches, hasn't even begun to fulfill its potential for reuse. And why aren't newspaper publishers recycling their own waste? The cost of repulping and de-inking is great but could be far cheaper than new stock if sections were printed in various hues. Grey, green, pink, blue for finance, sport, entertainment, real estate, et cetera. Why not, they once were, even here in Greece.

As consumers, we should insist on such changes and show our concern by the universal language, boycotts if necessary. We can also use more common sense in our purchases. For example, men buy throw-away Bic-like plastic razors by the handfuls. Conceived as ideal for travelling, the farthest trip most of these men make is to the nearest sports stadium, and the cost is several times that of conventional razor blades.

Household items bought in small quantities are equally expensive and add mounds of trash to the overburdened system.

The famous British furniture-maker, Habitat, has stopped using mahogany bathroom fittings, using larch instead. The next time you sit on a larch loo seat in Britain you might be relieved to know that the wood is recycled, coming from logs recovered from a 50-year immersion in a Siberian river. Tropical hardwoods are definitely out; saving the rainforests is in.

Below is the final offering on the altar of recycling. If these columns have encouraged you to use your own imagination, then at least we haven't wasted the paper they are printed on!

**Tubes, from paper towels, toilet tissue, plastic wrap, etc.:** Use for tucking in the dangling ends of small appliance cords. Stuff solid with waste paper and candle drippings for fireplace logs. Flatten, staple one end closed and use as covers for long sharp knives and scissors stored in drawers.

**Tuna tins:** Make great cookie cutters. Create a handle by marking off a one-inch band down the center and cutting the half-circles around the sides. Bend to overlap.

**TV guides, Greek and other short-life magazines:** Useful for wiping off excess paint when cleaning brushes (don't keep lying about); for fireplace logs and garden mulch. Placed in the bottom of a litter box, they absorb moisture and keep it at the bottom, economizing on litter (see Wood shavings).

**Vanity cases:** The kind made popular by models and airline stewardesses. It is no trick for today's women to trade exotic lipsticks for prosaic tools-hammers, pliers, etc. and these do make excellent carrying tool boxes. Before filling the inside, drill holes at intervals in the middle all around the sides and two rows in the top. Push through long paper brads (the kind that close padded mailing envelopes) and using elastic tape on the inside, make loops as you go. The closed brad ends will keep the tape in place and the loops will hold all kinds of small plastic (aspirin, vitamin)

bottles filled with screws, nails, tacks, et cetera and keep them in order. The case can be painted inside and out and be as colorful or as conservative as your imagination allows.

**Vases, cloudy, with necks as narrow as vinegar cruets:** These foggy containers can be crystal-clear. Shake thoroughly with a small amount of water. Empty, pour in about one tablespoon toilet-bowl crystals and swirl until entire surface is coated. Cover or close with a cork and let stand overnight. Then carefully rinse, pouring the water down the toilet. If the inside is still as murky as a fortune-tellers ball, try again using a strong solution of the crystals and put away for a day or two. This Does Work!

**Vases, cracked:** Choose a crayon or candle that matches color and drip the melted wax into the crack.

**Washing-machine water:** Of which there is a great deal more than you might think. Direct it into pails of water in the bathtub. The first soapy water is perfect for cleaning balcony or terrace and for flushing the toilet. The rinse water can rinse the terrace as well or be used to water the plants. Here virtue pays, saving this much water is noticeable. When filling the last bucket, don't forget to lay the drainage hose flat in the tub. Otherwise the last of the water can't drain out of the drum and the laundry will not be as dry as it should.

**Weevily flour, grain:** Seemingly inevitable in the summer. This happens because the eggs are already in the product. When this happens (freezing 48 hours immediately after purchase helps), don't throw it in the rubbish bin but place it where birds can find it. Remember, they get rid of a lot of other pests, too.

**Whisk(e)y bottles:** Along with their cousins in the wine trade, they are ideal storage containers. If shelf space is crowded lie flat on cabinet tops (of course they collect dust but are easily rinsed with each use) where they utilize

wasted space. Soak off labels (nail-polish remover and rubbing alcohol will penetrate rubber-based adhesives) and fill with rice, beans, flour, sugar oats, etc. They are attractive as 'store-bought' containers costing thousands. Racks are easily made for them and by painting each cap a different color, you will soon remember what each bottle contains.

**Wicker baskets, too many:** Some are very beautiful used as lampshades, particularly for hanging lights. Drill a hole in the middle for the cord. Cut out a large tin can top to use both as a reflector and a stop for the lightbulb socket. Spray-paint or varnish and it will be washable. Light filtering through the wicker weave is far more attractive than a solid shade. The stark hanging cord can be softened by entwining it with the plastic wire coiling from a calendar.

**Wooden bowl, cracked:** Use sawdust mixed with wood glue stained to match the bowl. If it is a salad bowl noticeably scarred by the repairs, scrub with a detergent dry and sand thoroughly. Paint or decal and finish with two coats of epoxy varnish.

**Wood shavings:** Easy to find and wood-working shops are glad to get rid of them. They are good for in the bottoms of flower pots where they filter the draining water and keep in the earth. Cover the drainage holes with nylon mesh and use a layer of 5-10cm. Also excellent as mulch when mixed with other compost materials. If you are tired of hauling around heavy expensive cat litter, wood shavings may be your solution. Mix with baking soda to act as a deodorizer or use a commercial spray. Their drawback is that they often cling to the cat's paws. This can be overcome by placing the litterbox on a piece of carpeting or an old bath towel.

*Now that you have been inspired, send us your own brilliant solutions to recycling. There might be "Recycling: A Readers' Postscript", and your name in print!* □

# classifieds

**Cost 1,300 drachmas all inclusive for a minimum 15 words; 15 drachmas each additional word.**

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# KATEY'S corner

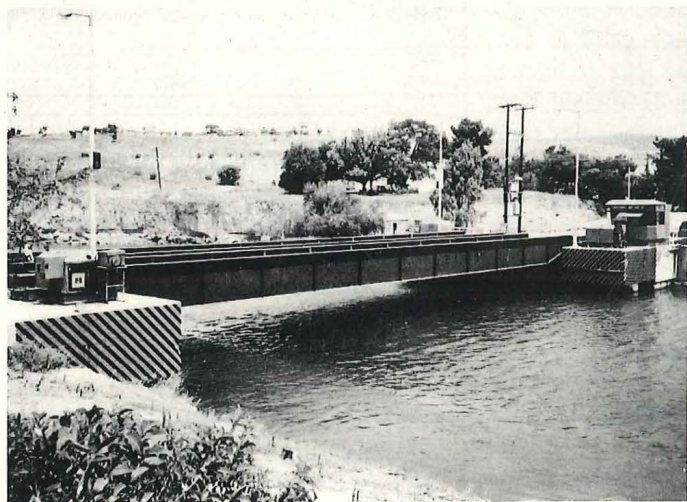


activity you are looking for, you will find it in The Organizer which is our centerfold. There you will find the church of your choice, various sports and schools you can enrol your children in, and if you have need of the assistance of an embassy, it is listed there, too. It is also a good idea to check out the Cultural Organizations and

**Club.** Their first get-together this season is planned for 18 September at the Hellenic Yacht Club honoring Greek shipowners who have supported Greek-American relations. Additional entertainment will be provided by the American College of Greece. Newly-elected officers are President, George Besi; 1st Vice President, Savvas Kalafatidis; 2nd Vice President, Michael Glynos; Secretary, Lorraine Batler; and Treasurer, Dr George Kalamotousakis. For more information, telephone 778-3698.

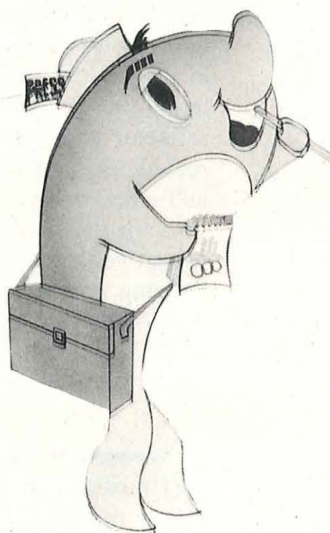
★ Singing Thespians will want to get in touch with the **Hellenic Amateur Musical Society (HAMS)** which gives regular musical productions and much pleasure. Call 813-7163 or 801-7007... **The Players** is an English-language theatre group presenting plays during the season. They have a wonderful time while working ambitiously to achieve first-class performances. They can be reached at 666-6394 or 644-1590. It is not necessary to be a Sarah Bernhardt or a Maria Callas or even appear on stage at all. They always need everything from sign painters to ticket sellers... **The Athens Singers** are a long-established amateur choral group of over 20 years' standing, whose moving performances of Dvorak's *Stabat Mater* in April and May made a deep impression on all who heard them. Rehearsals start on 11 September for a Christmas carol program and a major concert in January which will include a Mass by Mozart. New members are always very welcome. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 8.15 pm. Contact Tim Cullen on 652-5356, 652-5040 (2-6 pm). All these activities provide opportunities for getting acquainted in your new city. ★ On this subject, a hint to the newly-arrived is the **Newcomers group**. It has no officers, no dues, no responsibility, but it does have an expanded telephone chain of helpful women meeting at regular intervals to enjoy each other's company and life in Greece. Whether it is a bridge partner or a plumber you need, give a call at 647-5353 or 983-0684... The **American Women's Organization of Greece (AWOG)** will have its first meeting on the third Thursday of September. This 44-year-old organization is open to American women and wives of American citizens. It also welcomes foreign associate members. AWOG organizes cultural events and foreign and domestic travel programs. It has a Mother's Network, raises funds. You can be a part of all of this activity by calling 639-3250, ext 345 or 984-3360 Mon/Wed/Fri, 10.30-1.00 or Tuesday 2.30-4.00... The St Andrew's Guild is a friendly ecumenical group of women who specialize in sunshine and support

**F**or years, whenever we had any reason to be in Isthmia, we would take the opportunity to drive down to the Aegean end of the Corinth Canal to have luncheon at a favorite rickety fish restaurant. Rickety refers to the building; the fish was always super. One of the joys was watching the big ships come through the Canal and the other was to delight in the little cable-pulled car-ferry that connected the mainland to the Peloponnese. It could take two cars, a selection of motorcycles and some pedestrians each trip and the 'Captain' just waited to cross between the ships coming through. We hadn't been for a while and now found that the high-tech bridge shown here is doing the job. Ah, progress! On the other hand, judging by the number of cars that crisscrossed it just during the time we ate, there must have been a need. This new bridge just disappears downward on huge pillars when a ship passes by, the same way the cables of the little ferry went under the water. By the way, the fish are still excellent and ship-watching is still a pleasure.



We now know that a US presidential visit is composed of many ceremonial events, snarled traffic, smiling visitors greeting smiling hosts and hostesses, more snarled traffic, serious official discussions that we hope will prove fruitful for both the United States and Greece, even more snarled traffic, press conferences so that both Greece and the world could be a part of it all, again snarled traffic but, through it all, a festive feeling of good will and pride. ★ Many of you will be new arrivals in Athens this month. You are already off to a good start for you have a copy of *The Athenian*. Whatever

Archaeological Institutes, not only of your own country, but those whose language you know for there are lectures, exhibitions, musical programs, etc, that are both educational and entertaining. ★ Most men and a growing number of women come to Greece for business reasons and the fact that there are now **Chambers of Commerce** from many countries located here is a big plus. Just give them a call and they will inform you of their winter programs. ★ An English-speaking, cross-cultural business organization holding regular meetings with outstanding speakers is the **Propeller**



**T**he Mediterranean Games provided a wonderful showcase for the first-class sports facilities that have been recently finished and are being built in Greece. The facilities for the 23 sports included were upgraded in time for the Games. With 3500 athletes accompanied by half as many staff, it was wonderful how smoothly everything went off. The opening ceremonies were presided over by President Karamanlis with both the main organizer Mrs Fanny Palli-Petralia and the President of the International Olympic Committee, Juan Antonio Samaranch in attendance. Many venues were used throughout Greece and this not only made crowd control easier but gave Greeks from every area the feeling of being included. The delightful dolphin insignia for the Games was a welcome sight in all publicity. Our cartoon was drawn for the media, but the friendly fellow knew how to do all of the sports equally well. Big bravos to all involved!

In its own low-key way, the invitation was not unusual: "The Commander Sixteenth Air Force requests the pleasure of your company at the Hellenikon Air Base Closure Ceremony" etc. But the occasion, in spite of the bright sunshine, the bands playing, the dress uniforms was not really a happy one. Our photo shows the stars and stripes coming down over Hellenikon for the last time. Immediately after there was the ceremony raising the Greek flag and completing the procedures to return the base to its original owners. In recent years there had been a great deal of controversy over Hellenikon and this has not ceased with the closure. The residents of Glyfada want it converted into a park while government says it must be used for airport expansion.



Here is more information on the wonderful environmental fund raiser being planned by the wife of the South African Ambassador Mrs Jeanne Golden for the night of 16 September. The gardens of the residence will be arranged to emulate a tropical game park with lions, tigers and perhaps a giraffe or two lurking in the trees. A fashion parade including Escada, Rena Lange, Ella Singh and Ermenegildo Zegna will be followed by an international floor show with music and a complete dinner with special delicacies. There will be *no* lottery tickets sold as all prizes are on the entrance invitations with such goodies as two round-trip tickets to Johannesburg with a 3-day safari to famous Kruger National Park, trips to Cyprus and Italy, jewellery, cruises, etc. The best part is that your attendance will provide funds for the Goulandris National History Museum's project for the protection of the ecosystems in the Pindos area, African Wildlife/Heritage Trust and a scholarship for studies in Greece on nature conservation. The Ambassador's wife is front and center in our photograph with a smiling group of ladies whose aim is to make the event a complete success. Want to hear more? Call the Embassy at 6922-2125.

An exceptional new film produced by Mr Spyros Merkouris and directed by Evita Chryssolouris was recently presented at a reception by invitation of the Greek President of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce and Mrs D. Petsiavas held at the Athenaeum Inter-Continental. Entitled "Poets Sing to Greece" the film depicts the country through the words of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Elytis, Seferis, Plato, Homer, Cavafy, Le Corbusier, Byron and Keats. Thousands of years of history and the places where it developed are exposed in beautiful photography with inspired music. Our camera caught the host Mr Demetre Petsiavas (left) and his wife welcoming guests Ms Katerina Alexandrakis, Mr Aris Manias, and Mr Dimitri Pierides.

outreach. They also have a monthly meeting and welcome new members. Telephone 671-7886 or 683-1989 for information... There are lots of ways to get the small fry started. Boy and Girl Scout Troops are listed in the Organizer, several pre-school programs in foreign languages are available and starting in schools always produces new friends quickly... Welcome to each of you and may you enjoy your tour in Greece thoroughly.

★ US citizens should be advised that there will be mayoral elections in Baltimore, Boston, Charlotte, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Memphis, Miami, Toledo and San Francisco this year. You can contact the Voting Officer at the US Consulate 721-2951, ext 421, for help and information or telephone Democrats Abroad at 722-4645 or Republicans Abroad at 681-5747.

★ The Hesperus Chapter of Daughters of Penelope have held their election for the coming year and the new officers are: President, Miss Terry Pirpinias, Vice President, Mrs Kaiti Peters and Treasurer, Ms Esther Deligiannis. This active Greek-American group always welcomes new members and you can contact them by telephoning 952-3030.



**THEATRE**

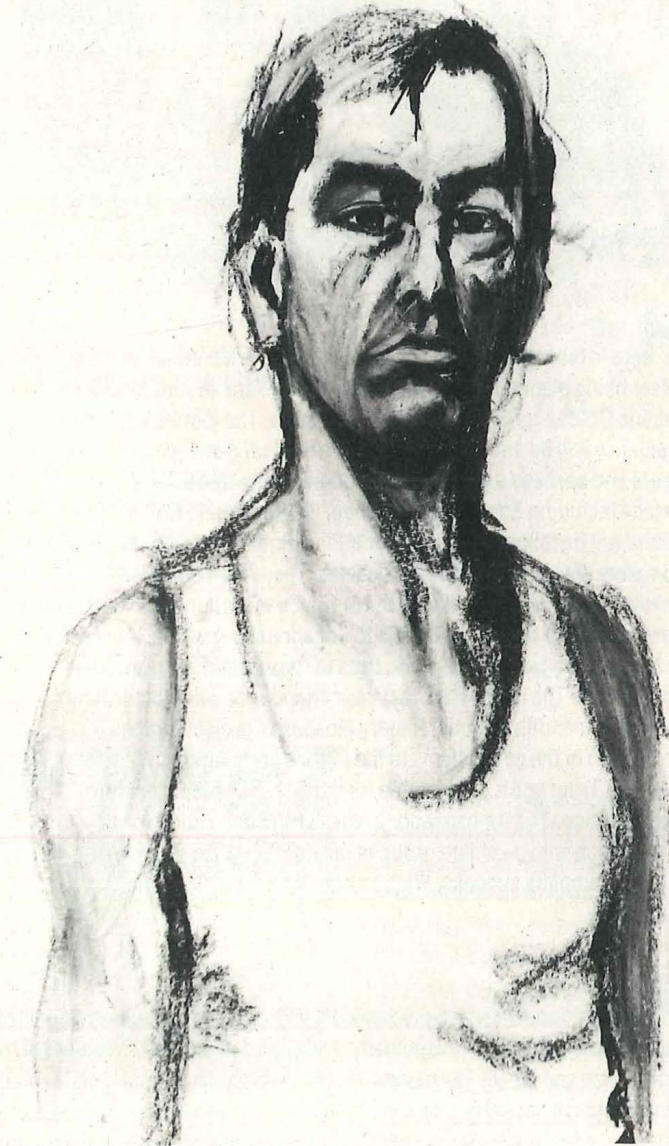
**The Players**, the sympathetic amateur theatrical group are preparing for their next production which is *Loot* by Joe Orton. *Loot* is a satire on police corruption and detective-fiction. It was written in 1966, one year before Orton's bizarre and brutal murder which resembled the death of some of his fictional characters. The play is characterized by the contrast between its prim-and-proper dialogue and the violence of its action.

Auditions will take place at the Players' Studio, Troados 14, Pefkakia, 4 September, 8 pm. If you cannot make it then but still wish to be auditioned, contact Charles Osborne, tel:923-5225 for additional auditions on 5 September.

An opening-of-season barbecue will be held on 14 September, 8pm, Persephonis 8, Ekali. New members are welcomed. There will be a small entrance fee and drinks will be served at the bar. For enquiries tel: 724-8219, 202-2316.

**SEMINAR**

**New Thoughts, New Consciousness, New Horizons**, is the theme of a seminar on self development to be held in Naoussa on Paros island between 28 September and 3 October, organized by the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University. Some of the topics will be: "Discovering human identity. The meaning of consciousness", "Spirituality: its meaning; its use as a tool to look internally and thus create a better life", "The power of concentrated thought", "The art of self development." A balance between discussion and creative silence will be aimed at dur-



Drawings by Rob Jacobs in Naxos

the events of the symposium on History and Art in Monemvassia, organized by the Monemvassia Society, a centre for Byzantine and post-Byzantine studies of the Peloponnese. Guest of honour at the symposium was Sir Steven Runciman, the distinguished Byzantine scholar.

**RETROSPECT**

**British Travellers in the Peloponnese** was the theme of the exhibition held at the end of July in the new museum of Monemvasia. It was one of

ing the seminar and the deeper levels of the mind will be explored by experimenting with concentration through various silence exercises. The program includes excursions and activities of sharing the experience of Greek island life. For information: Kalymnou 8, Athens, tel: 867-1551.

**COURSE**

Residential pottery courses are given by Alan and Schoniad Bain in their Candili establishment at the Noel Baker estate in Prokopi,

Èvia. The courses are designed for a small number of people and vary from one weekend to two weeks. Vegetarians are welcomed. Also available are weekend courses both in English and French. The techniques of pottery making, drying, firing and glazing are taught. As Schoniad and Alan receive their students from all over the world there is a real opportunity for artistic exchanges. A special technique taught by the Bains is the Japanese Raku. Cups of this type were used in the traditional tea ceremony. If you are good students you can produce your own set. A chance for a lovely busy holiday. For information, tel: 0227-41298.

**CONFERENCES**

Scientists and administrators from 5 continents will be gathering at Zappeion Hall and Hilton Hotel between 18-21 September for the **13th International Conference on Labor Law and Social Security**. Two conference themes focus on Labor Law and one on Social Security with several sessions each. "The Impact of Economic Difficulties of the Business on Working Conditions", to be presented by Dr Oscar Ermida Uriarte (Uruguay). "Modes of Regulating Conflicts on Collective Interests", by Prof John Koukiadis (Greece). "Judicial Problems from the Regulation and Application of a Minimum Revenue for Everyone", by Prof Otto Czucz (Hungary). There will also be a roundtable on "Labor Law, Social Security and Economy", coordinated by Antoine Lyon-Caen (France). Simultaneous interpretation will be available in French, English, Spanish,





Millas, at Eleftherias Park

German and Greek. It is worth noting that in 1966 there were plans for organizing the 1970 conference in Greece which never materialized due to the abolition of the democratic regime by the junta. For information on the conference call Dr Triandafilos Mitsou, tel: 523-2975.

**The 5th International Conference of the International Organization of Folk Art** will take place 4-8 September at Athens College, Paleo Psychiko. About 500 participants will present their work on the theme "Dance and Ancient Greece." There will be participation from countries as far as Japan, China,

**Cyprus Cone by Aphrodite Littis at the House of Cyprus**

## EXHIBITION

**Assault on the Senses** is the name of the exhibition to be seen until 24 September at the House of Cyprus, organized under the auspices of the Contemporary Art Institution DESTE. Sensationalism is the common element in the works of 8 young artists widely differing in their speculations, style and artistic means. The sense of space, the tactile, the vision are triggered towards a conflict with established concepts. The artists whose work is responsible for assaulting your senses are: Dimitris Dokatzis, Hari Kondosfiri, Yiannis Kourakis, Afroditi Liti, Miltos Manetas, Elias Marmaras, Maria Papadimitriou, Tassos Pavlopoulos. Curator of the exhibition is historian and art critic Katerina Kafopoulou.

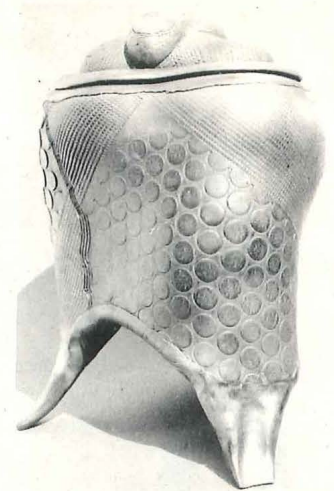


the Antilles etc, as well as Europe and the US. There will be daily reports on the theme, some of them accompanied by projections or live performances. Among the Greek participations, the university team "Evretirio" will give a recital on 6 September using ancient Greek musical instruments. The Conference is supported by Dora Stratou Association of Greek Dances. Information, Mrs Lina Zarkou, tel: 324-6188.

## BOOKS

The latest catalogue of **Pharos Books** is currently in circulation. Rare titles, signed copies, author's first books and scarce editions are available from Pharos/Athens, PO Box 182 46, Athens 116 10, tel: 724-2598, fax: 724-9508. Among their current acquisitions is a work by recently deceased Greek poet Nikiphoros Vrettakos *The Letter of the Swan*, editions Govosty, 1937, in Greek. The book is personally dedicated by Vrettakos to G. Chatzinis, poet and literary critic.

Published in 1890 by Clarendon Press Oxford, *The Islands of the Aegean* by the Rev. Henry F. Tozer, is an

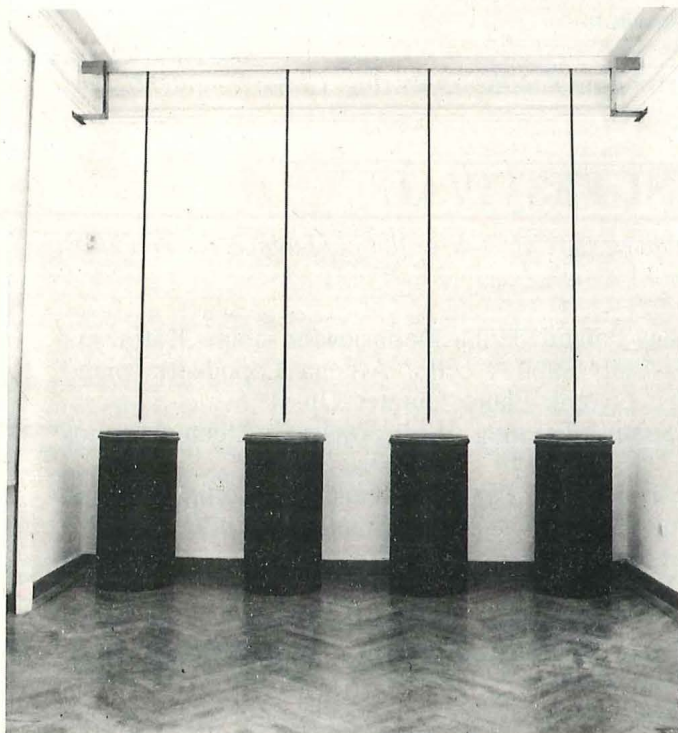


Raku at Candili Pottery

account of three separate journeys with long sections on Lemnos, Thassos and Samothrace. The islands were visited in 1874, 1886 and 1889. Some of the maps are much older.

## ATHENS FESTIVAL

**The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre** will appear in Herod Atticus Odeon on 5,6,7,8 September sponsored by Philip Morris Companies. Older successes of the team will be performed on 5 and 6. *Revelations* considered a signature piece by Alvin Ailey and is based on the Black religious heritage.



**Clytemnestra: Installation in two parts by Dimitris Dokatzis at the House of Cyprus**



**A VISTA, string quartet of Warsaw, in Santorini**



The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre

Come and Get the Beauty of it Hot with the choreography of Talley Beatty is a sizzling fusion of jazz ballets with elements of AfroCaribbean and classical dance. The scene develops in an imaginary ballroom in Spanish Harlem where music and contacts are equally hot. *Forgotten Time*, choreographed by Judith Jamison, is a quietly uplifting spiritual work to be performed in between the two previous works. On 7,8 September the work of the team in the last three decades will be presented. *Hidden Rites*, choreographed by Alvin Ailey in 1973 is a celebration of the cycle of life. *Shards*, has been choreographed by Donald Byrd in 1988 and *Caravan* by Louis Falco in 1990.

### TICKETS FOR PERFORMANCES

- at the Odeon of Herod Atticus, can be bought at the Athens Festival Box office, Stadiou 4, in the arcade, tel 322-1459 or 322-3111 ext 240. The office is open weekdays from 8.30am-2pm and 5pm-7pm and Sundays 10am-1pm. At the Odeon of Herod Atticus Box Office, tel 323-2771 and 322-3111 ext 137, on the days of the performance from 5pm-9pm.

*All performances begin at 8.30 pm. All events are subject to change. Photography is strictly forbidden with or without flash. For video or sound recordings special permit is required.*

### HEROD ATTICUS

Sept 3,4..... The Tchaikovsky Orchestra of Moscow Odeon  
 Sept 5,6,7,8..... Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre Ailey  
 Sept 9..... Thessaloniki State Orchestra  
 Sept 10,11..... Mozardeum Orchestra Salzburg  
 Sept 16..... International Cultural Centre Athenaeum

*After the commencement of a performance, entry is only allowed to the upper ring. Children under 6 years of age are only allowed in the upper ring.*

### 13th SANTORINI FESTIVAL

Tel: 724-2373 and (0286)23166, 22231. All performances start at 9pm at the conference center Petros Nomikos in Fira

Sept 1..... The "A Vista" String Quartet of Warsaw-Poland. Erika Dobosiewicz violin, Katrazyna Gilewska violin, Jacek Toczyski viola, Piotr Sapilak cello. Athena Capodistria piano (Greece). Schubert-Beethoven Quartets. Dvorak Piano Quintet Op.81.  
 Sept 6..... Piano Recital. Ricardo Requejo-Spain. Spanish Evening. Works by Isaak Albeniz. Cantos de Espana-Iberia I,II  
 Sept 8..... "The Macedonian Chamber Ensemble" (Greece). Dimitris Chandrakis violin, Despina Papastergiou violin, Paris Anastasiadis viola, Apostolos Chandrakis cello, Christos Graonidis clarinet. Works by: Rossini-Mozart Clarinet Quintet. Dvorak String Quintet Op.77.

*The same festival will take place in Paros in the courtyard of Ekatontapyliani Church on the following dates:*

Sept 2.....The "A Vista" String Quartet of Warsaw-Poland.  
 Sept 9....."The Macedonian Chamber Ensemble" (Greece).

SEPT

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NAME DAYS IN SEPTEMBER

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 with gifts and the traditional greeting of *chronia polla* (many happy returns).

September 5	Zaharias
September 14	Stavros, Stavroula, Voula
September 17	Sophia, Agapi, Elpida
September 20	Efstathios, Stathis, Efstathia
September 25	Efrosini

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 3	Labor Day(US, Canada)
September 8	Rosh Hashanah
September 18	Yom Kippur

GALLERIES

**AEGOKEROS**, Aristodimou 4, Kolonaki, tel 722-3897. Group exhibition, paintings, sculptures, jewellery, etching.  
**AENAON**, Stournari 30, tel 522-8688. Group exhibition by the graduates of ASKT-university school of fine arts. 2-15 Sept.  
**ART STUDIO EST**, Taxilou 81-83, Ano Ilissia, tel 823-6711, 775-0210. Members' group exhibition, Thu-Sun, 7-10pm.  
**DADA**, Niridon 6 & Pratinou, tel 722-2929. Paintings by Penelopy Voltera, 23 Sept-7 Oct.  
**DESMOS**, Tziraion 2, tel 922-0750. By appointment.  
**DRAKON**, 127 Irakleiou Ave, tel 251-6551, 252-1120. *Proposal for a Contemporary Collection-2*, until 28 Sept.  
**EKFRASSI**, Fivis 11, Glyfada, tel 894-0391. Paintings by Stathis Vatanidis, 23 Sept-5 Oct.  
**EPOCHES**, Kifissias 263, tel 808-3645. Group exhibition, until 14 September, 11am-2pm and 6-9pm.  
**GALLERY 7**, Zalokosta 7, tel 361-2050. Group exhibition. Dimitris Georgakopoulos, Mihalís Zissiou, Sophia Karaleka, Milen Maltou, Eleni Mihailou, Gerassimo Sklavo, Dimitri Soulioti. Until September.  
**JILL YAKAS**, Spartis 16, Kifissia, tel 801-2773. By appointment.  
**KONTI GALLERY**, Makriyianni 133, Moschato, tel 481-9884. Group exhibition of artists from Piraeus, until September.  
**LOULAKI**, in Hydra. Paintings by Stathis Petropoulos, until 12 Sept.

**MOIRARAKI**, Kifissias Av.263a, tel 808-3001. Painting, group exhibition by 12 artists, until 28 September.  
**PLAKA**, N.Nikodemou 29, Plaka, tel 323-4498. Paintings by Robi Goldberg, 1-14 Sept.  
**TITANIUM**, Vas.Konstantinou 44, tel 721-1865. Paintings by Petros, 16-27 Sept.  
**YPOGRAFI**, Kifissias Av.294, in Psychiko Shopping Centre, tel 724-2723. Paintings and designer's furniture by Takis Zenetos. Sculptures by Aspasia Zenetos.

EXHIBITIONS

**MUSEUM OF GREEK FOLK ART**, Kydathineon 17, tel 321-3018. Silks from Proussa, collection of Soula Bozi, until Feb.1992.  
**GOULANDRIS MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART**, Andros island, tel 0282-22444, Athens tel 721-0706. Selected etchings by Dimitris Galanis. Also permanent collection of contemporary art. Both exhibitions until 15 September. Announced exhibition on Paul Klee, postponed for summer 1993. In 1992 exhibition on A. Giacometti.  
**KASTRO CULTURAL CENTRE**, in Naxos. Catholic Church *Ipapandi*, organizes a painting exhibition by Rob Jacobs. Until 9 Sept, 11 am-1 pm and 6 pm-8.30 pm.  
**HOUSE OF CYPRUS**, Irakleitou 10, tel 364-1217. *Assault on the Senses*, 8 artists exhibit until 24 September. See Focus.  
**The German Contact and Information presents :**  
**FRAUENMESSE ATHEN 1991.**  
**German speaking women of all professions exhibit at the Goethe Institute, Omirou 14-16.**  
**Sat 21 Sept 11 am - 9 pm**  
**Sun 22 Sept 10 am - 7 pm**  
**Information, tel: 361-2288**

CONFERENCES

**DANCE AND ANCIENT GREECE**, 5th International Conference, at Athens College, Psychiko, 4-8 Sept. Organised by International Organization of Folk Art and Dora Stratou Greek Dances. Information: Mrs Lina Zarkou 324-6188. See Focus.  
**HISTORY AND FOLKLORE OF ATTIKA**, 4th Conference, at Municipality Hall Ano Liossia, Plateia Heroon, 11-15 Sept. Organized by the municipality. Information: Mr Theodorou 247-4845.  
**LABOUR LAW AND SOCIAL SECURITY**, 13th International Conference, at Zappeion Hall and Hilton Hotel, 18-21 Sept. Organized by the International and the Greek Societies of ooooo Law and Social Security. Information: Mr Bitsos 523-2975. See Focus.  
**COLUMBUS**, 5th International Conference, at Omirio Cultural Center in Chios, 26-29 Sept. Organized by the Society for Eastern Aegean Studies. Information: Mrs Papamichael-Negreponce 721-3817.  
**THE FOODS & WINES OF GREECE**, International Symposium, at Porto Carras, 20-24 October. Organized by Gifford, Drescher & Associates, Boston, tel 00617-695 0600, fax 00617-426-7696 on behalf of the Oldways Preservation and Exchange Trust.

COURSES

**ATHENS CENTRE**, Archimidou 48, tel 701-2268. Modern Greek language courses from beginning through advanced levels.  
**YWCA**, Amerikis 11, tel 362-4291. Modern Greek ongoing courses. A variety of subjects taught in Greek: photography, computers, jewellery, painting, pottery, folk dances, cooking.  
**HELLENIC AMERICAN UNION**, Massalias 22, tel 362-9886. Modern spoken Greek. 4-30 Sept. Registration 2 Sept.

**BRITISH COUNCIL**, 17 Kolonaki sq, tel 363-3211. The Diploma for overseas teachers of English, 16 Sept-29 May 1992. Using authentic materials in the language classroom, 10-11 Sept. Designing teaching tasks, 27-28 Sept.  
**CANDILI POTTERY**, Prokopi, Evia, tel 0227-41298. Residential pottery courses. See Focus.

THEATRE

**THE PLAYERS**, the Studio, Troados 14, Pefkakia. Auditions for Joe Orton's *Loot*, 4 Sept, 8pm. Information, Charles Osborne, tel: 923-5225. See Focus.  
**GROUND GROUP**, visual dance theatre at Petra Theatre, Petroupolis, Sept 4, tel 501-2402.  
**MILLAS**, performs *Antinomies*, on 20,21 Sept, 8.30pm, at Eleftherias Park theatre, behind Athens Concert Hall, Vas.Sofias, tel: 723-2604, 722-4028.

GREEK FOLK DANCES

**DORA STRATOU GROUP** at Philopappou Theatre, Athens, daily at 22.55, Wedn & Sun at 20.15, 22.25. Information tel: 324-4395 (9am-2pm) and 921-4650 (7pm-11pm).  
**KERKYRAIKON CHORODRAMA** at the Old Venetian Castle in Corfu, daily at 9pm. Information tel: 0661-39730, 30360.  
**NELLY DIMOGLU GROUP** at Rodini Theatre, Rhodes, daily except Sunday, at 9.15pm. Information tel: 0241-20157, 27524.

LECTURE

**PEACE THROUGH MEDITATION**, by Sant Thakar Singh, 28 Sept, 2pm & 8pm, at Knossos theatre, Knossou 11, tel: 867-7070, 862-4463. Information: Mr Tony Zoulis 821-0124.

SEMINAR

**THE BRAHMA KUMARIS CENTRE**, seminar on *New Thoughts, New Consciousness, New Horizons*, 28 Sept-3 October, on Paros island. For information tel: 867-1551. See Focus.

WINE FESTIVAL

**ATHENS** at Dafni, until 15 Sept, daily 7pm-0.30am. Information and tickets: Stadiou 4, tel: 322-7944.

SOUND AND LIGHT

**ATHENS at ACROPOLIS** (Phyx), daily. Information and tickets Stadiou 4, tel: 322-1459, 322-3111/240.  
**CORFOU** at the Old Venetian Castle, daily. Information tel: 0661-30520,30360.  
**RODOS** at the Palace of the Knights, daily. Information tel: 0241-23255, 23655, 21922.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

**AMERICAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION OF GREECE (AWOG)** For membership at AWOG and general information tel 639-3250/9, ext 345, M-W-F, 10.30am-1.30pm.  
**ATHENS COSMOPOLITAN LIONS CLUB**, for information concerning the meeting agenda call Mr Baganis, tel 360-1311.

**ATTICA CLUB OF FILOTHEI** offers bridge lessons, for all members interested, tel 682-1726 or 682-7108.

**CANADIAN WOMEN'S CLUB OF ATHENS** welcomes new members to monthly meetings and activities. For information tel 652-0772.

**CULTURAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNITY** is a new association welcoming members. Its goal is to strengthen the ties between Greece and the Portuguese community. Tel 775-5032.

**DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE AHEPA Senior Women's Auxiliary**, Athens Hesperus chapter No. 359. For information tel 952-3030, Terry Piripinias, President or tel 652-8063, Ann Bokolinis, Liaison.

**DEMOCRATS ABROAD**, for information tel 722-4645.

**ENGLISH SPEAKING SOCIAL SOCIETY** meets every Wed. from 8-10 pm at the Athenian Pastry Shop, 320 Kifissias, Psychiko. Dr Agis Sarakinos, tel 672-5485.

**GREEK-IRISH SOCIETY**. For information, tel 262-8683.

**LA LECHE LEAGUE**, "Nutrition and Weaning," Athens North, 24 September, 10am, Fiona Kokkinou, tel: 813-6119. Same topic Greek on 10 September, 10am, Natassa Stamou, tel: 666-7786. Athens South, same topic, 18 September, 10am, Suzy Macsary, tel: 895-1159. Membership entitles you to attend meetings, borrow books and receive "New Beginnings", the LLL magazine. Babies and toddlers are welcomed at the meetings.

**PROPELLER CLUB**. For information call L. Battler, 778-3698 or G. Nahas, 779-6232.

**REGINE**, women's social club. Dance classes, gym, meditation, hobby craft, make-up workshops, health snack bar, children's activities, toddlers crest. Tel 894-8961.

**REPUBLICANS ABROAD**. For information tel 681-5747.

**ST. ANDREW'S WOMEN'S GUILD**. As a society of St Andrew's Protestant Church, the guild will offer a hearty welcome to newly-arrived women. For information tel 651-7405 or the church tel 652-1401.

**SEA TURTLE PROTECTION SOCIETY OF GREECE**. 35 Solomou, tel 364-4145. Educational visits and programs at schools.

**WOMEN'S AGLOW FELLOWSHIP** is an international women's organization in Athens. For information call 804-4209.

**YWCA (XEN)**, Amerikis 11, tel 362-4291. Greek for foreigners, Painting, Photography, Cooking, Sewing, Jewellery, Pottery, Computers, Greek Dances, etc. Activities for children, Saturday 9-1 am. For information, tel 362-4291.

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES

**HOLY APOSTLES CATHOLIC CHURCH**, Alkyonidon 77, Voula, tel 895-8694. Holy Mass, Tuesday and Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 11:30 am.

**UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH INTERNATIONAL**, Lambrou Katsoni 58, tel 644-6980. Weekly services: Sunday 10:30 am, 3 pm; Wednesday 7:30 pm; Bible Study, Prayer Service Saturday 7-9 pm.

**HELLENIC INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH**, Tsaldari 18, Kifissia, tel 692-7373, in the former Roussos Hotel. Sunday service is at 11 am and there is also a Sunday School. For more information call 807-8946.

**ST. ANDREW'S PROTESTANT CHURCH**, Papanikoli 3, Papagou. Pastor David Pederson, tel 652-1401. Service: (former Hotel Roussos) Pan. Tsaldari 18, Kifissia, 9 am; Sina 66, 11:15 am.

**ST. PAUL'S CHURCH**, Phililellinon 25. The Rev John F. Maddock-Lyon, tel 323-4790; 721-4906; 8 am, Holy Communion, first Sunday of the month; 9 am Sung Eucharist, every Sunday; 10:30 am Morning Prayer, every Sunday. Church open daily, except Mondays and holidays, 9 am till 1 pm.

**ST. PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**, St. Catherine's British Embassy School, Kifissia, tel 721-4906. The Rev W H Chivers: 10 am, Holy Eucharist, Sundays except the first Sunday of the month, when Morning Prayer is followed by Holy Communion.

**VOULA SERVICES**, Daphni 1, Voula: 6 pm, Holy Eucharist, first and third Sundays of the month.

**ST DENIS CATHOLIC CHURCH**, Panepistimiou 31, tel 362-3603.

**ST NIKODIMOS**, Russian Orthodox Church, Filellinon 21, tel 323-1090.

**INTERNATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST** Omonia Square Piraeos 28, 1st, floor tel: 895-6530.

We invite you to our **ENGLISH HOUR OF WORKSHOP** every Sunday afternoon 5:30-6:30.

## LIBRARIES

**ATHENS COLLEGE LIBRARY**, Psychiko. ☎ 671-4627, ext. 60. Open Mon-Fri. 8:30-7pm, Sat. 12-5pm. 25,000 books in English and Greek; English periodicals.

**AMERICAN LIBRARY**, Hellenic American Union, Massalias 22 (4th floor). ☎ 363-7740. Books, periodicals, indices

and US government documents in English. A microfilm - microfiche reader, printer and a small collection of video-cassettes, films records, slides, and filmstrips. The New York Times, Time, Newsweek and Scientific American available on film. Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10-7pm and Friday 9:30-2:30 pm.

**BRITISH COUNCIL LIBRARY**, Kolonaki Sq. ☎ 363-3211. Lending and Reference libraries open Monday-Thursday 5:30-8:30pm and Friday 9:30-1:30pm pm.

**BENAKI**, Koumbari 1 ☎ 362-6462. For reference use only. Books, periodicals, manuscripts, engravings and watercolor pertaining to all periods of Greek history and art with emphasis on folk tradition. Every day 8:30-2pm. Tuesday Saturday and Sunday closed.

**FRENCH INSTITUTE**, Sina 29. ☎ 362-4301. Books, periodicals, reference works and records in French. Open everyday 10-7pm except Monday 2-7pm.

**THE GENNADIOS**, American School of Classical Studies, Souidias 61. ☎ 721-0536. Reference works on Greece from antiquity to the present. Permanent exhibition of rare books, manuscripts and works of art Monday and Friday 9-5 pm, Tuesday 9am -8pm and Saturday 9am-2pm.

**GOETHE INSTITUTE LIBRARY**, 14-16 Omirou, second floor.

**THE HELLENIC AMERICAN UNION GREEK LIBRARY**, Massalias 22, 7th floor. ☎ 362-9886 (ext.51). Open Monday and Friday 10am-5pm. Tuesday, Thursday 9-1pm and 6-8pm, Wednesday 1-8pm. A general public library, it also functions as a reading room.

**NATIONAL GREEK LIBRARY**, Panepistimiou. ☎ 361-4413.

## MUSEUMS AND SITES

**ACROPOLIS**, Open 8:30-2:30pm. The entrance fee of 800 drs includes the museum.

**ACROPOLIS MUSEUM**, ☎ 321-0219. Sculptures, vases, terra-cottas and bronzes from Acropolis' excavations.

**ANCIENT AGORA**, ☎ 321-0185. Open 8:30am-2:45pm; closed Monday. Entrance 200 drs, student prices.

**AGORA MUSEUM**, ☎ 321-0185. Open 8:30am-3:00pm; closed Monday. Entrance 400 drs, students 200 drs. A replica of the 2nd century BC Stoa of Attalos, the museum has been reconstructed on original foundations in the ancient Agora. Also houses finds from Agora excavations.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF PIRAEUS**, Harilao Trikoupi 31, Piraeus. ☎ 452-1598. Open 8:30am-3pm; closed Monday. Entrance 200 drs, students 100 drs. Holds fine collection of Greek and Roman sculptures.

**ATHENS CITY MUSEUM-VOURO'S FOUNDATION-EFTAXIA**, Papanigopolou 7. ☎ 324-6164. Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 9am-1:30pm. Entrance 100 drs (students and tour guides have free entrance). Wednesday free. It contains paintings, designs, sectional plans and models of Athens of 19th century as well as furniture, costumes and personal objects of Othon and Amalia, who lived in this palace for a few years. Wednesday Free.

**BENAKI MUSEUM**, Koumbari 1 (corner of Vas Sofias). ☎ 361-1617. Open 8:30am-2pm daily. Entrance 200 drs. Neoclassical mansion housing Anthony Benaki's private collection of ancient and modern Greek art, artefacts, textiles and costumes, as well as examples of Islamic, Coptic and Chinese art. Tuesday closed.

**BYZANTINE MUSEUM**, Vas Sofias 22. ☎ 721-1027. Open 8:30am-3pm; closed Monday. Entrance 400 drs. Villa built for the Duchess of Plaisance in 1848. Houses Athens' major collection of Byzantine and post-Byzantine art, including permanent collection of European masters.

**CENTRE FOR FOLK ART AND TRADITION**, A. Hadzimi-hali 6, Plaka. ☎ 324-3987. Open Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 9am-1pm & 5-9pm; Tuesday & Thursday 9am-9pm; Sunday 9am-1pm; closed Monday. Exhibitions focusing on folk traditions in Greece.

**CYCLADIC AND ANCIENT GREEK ART MUSEUM**, Neophytou Douka 4, Kolonaki. ☎ 724-9706. Open 10am-4pm; closed Tuesday & Sunday. The museum was built to house the private collection of the Nicholas P. Goulandris Foundation. 230 unique examples of Cycladic art are housed on the first floor, while the second is devoted to small and monumental works from 2000 BC to 400 AD, and the top floor is dedicated to the Charles Politis Collection. On Saturday mornings the museum organizes activities for children, starting in October. Entrance fee 150 drs.

**D. PIERIDIS MUSEUM OF MODERN ART**, King George Ave 29, Glyfada. ☎ 898-0166. Every day 6-9pm, Saturday and Sunday 10-1 pm. Private collection of Cypriot and Greek modern art.

**ELEFTHERIOS VENIZELOS ARCHIVES**, Cristou Lada 2. ☎ 322-1254. Open 9am-1pm; closed Saturday. Sunday only evening hours. Entrance free. It contains personal memorials and historical documents of Venizelos and his lifetime.

**ELEFTHERIOS VENIZELOS MUSEUM**, Eleftherias Park (Vas. Sofias, behind Venizelos' statue). ☎ 722-4238. Open 10am-1pm & 6-8pm; closed Monday & Sunday. Entrance free. It contains personal objects of Venizelos, photographic material and documents. It also has a library with books about E. Venizelos and his lifetime.

**EVGENIDES FOUNDATION COLLECTION OF EXPERIMENTS IN PHYSICS** Singrou 387, Amfiteia. ☎ 941-1181. Showing slides. Sunday 10:45-12pm, 1-2:15pm and 4:00. Entrance free.

**GOULANDRIS MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY**, Levidou 13, Kifissia. ☎ 801-5870. Open 9am-2pm; closed Friday. Entrance 200 drs, students 50 drs.

**GOUNARO MUSEUM**, G. Gounaropoulos 6, Ano Ilissia. ☎ 777-7601. Open 9am-1pm & 5am-7pm; Friday, Saturday, Sunday 9am-1pm; closed Monday. Entrance free. Art and memorabilia of Gounaropoulos, one of Greece's best known artists.

**HELLENIC MARITIME MUSEUM**, Zea, Piraeus. ☎ 451-6822, 451-6264. Open 8:30am-1pm; closed Sunday & Monday. Entrance 100 drs.

**HISTORICAL GREEK COSTUME MUSEUM**, Dimokritou 7, Kolonaki. ☎ 362-9513. Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am-1pm. Entrance free. It contains traditional costumes from all over Greece, which come from the collection of the Greek Lyceum.

**JEWISH MUSEUM OF GREECE**, Amalias 36. Open 9am-1pm; closed Saturday. Entrance free. The collection of the museum includes religious and folk art representatives of the centuries-old Jewish-Greek and Sephardic communities of Greece.

**KANELLOPOULOS MUSEUM**, Theorias & Panos, Plaka. ☎ 321-2313. Open 8:30am-3pm; closed Monday. Art and artefacts from prehistoric times to the post-Byzantine period.

**KATINA PAXINOUS MUSEUM**, Thoukididou 13, Plaka. ☎ 322-1335. Open Wednesday & Friday 9am-1pm. It contains personal objects of the great tragedian, costumes from performances, the Oscar award and pictures of her life and career. Entrance free.

**KERAMIKOS MUSEUM & SITE**, Ermou 148. ☎ 346-3552. Open 8:30am-3pm; closed Monday. Entrance 200 drs, students 100 drs. The site includes the ruins of the Dipylos, the Sacred Gate and cemetery, a funerary avenue containing graves, and monuments to famous Athenians. The museum houses many finds from the cemetery.

**MUSEUM OF GREEK FOLK ART**, Kydathinaion 17, Plaka. ☎ 322-9031. Open 10am-2pm; closed Monday. Entrance 200 drs, students 100 drs. Art and artefacts mainly from the 18th & 19th centuries.

**NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM**, Tositsa 1. ☎ 821-7717. Open Tuesday to Friday 8am-5pm; Monday 11-5pm; Saturday & Sunday 8:30am-3pm. Entrance 600 drs, students 300 drs.

**NATIONAL GALLERY**, Vas. Constantinou 60. ☎ 723-5938. Open 9am-3pm; Sunday 10am-2pm; closed Monday. Entrance 150 drs. Paintings, engravings and sculptures by Greek and foreign artists.

**NATIONAL HISTORICAL MUSEUM**, Stadiou & Kolokotroni (old Parliament). ☎ 323-7617. Open Tuesday to Friday 9am-1:30pm; Saturday & Sunday 9am-1pm; closed Monday. Entrance 200 drs, students 50 drs. Thursday free. It contains objects from the Frankish, Venetian and Turkish periods, traveller's plans, weapons, souvenirs of Othon and George I, as well as collections from the Cretan War, Balkan War, Asia Minor disaster, of World War II.

**NUMISMATIC MUSEUM**, Tositsa 1. ☎ 821-7769. Open 8:30am-3pm daily. It contains 300,000 gold, silver and copper coins from 700 BC on, as well as a collection from the byzantine period. Monday closed.

**PALEONTOLOGICAL & GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM**, Panepistimiou Athinon, Panepistimioupolis. ☎ 724-7401.

**PHILATELIC MUSEUM**, Fokianou 2. ☎ 751-9066. Open 8am-2pm; Monday & Wednesday 5-8pm; closed Saturday & Sunday. Entrance free. It contains objects which characterize the development of the mail service, philatelic material, printing elements, first-day circulation envelopes, commemorative seals.

**RAIL MUSEUM**, Liosion 301. ☎ 524-6580. Open Wednesday 5-8pm & Friday 10am-1pm. Entrance free. It contains carriages as well as furniture, mirrors, plate settings, tickets and perforating machines from the establishment of Greek railways.

**THEATRICAL MUSEUM**, Akadimias 50. ☎ 362-9430. Open 9am-3pm; Sunday 10am-1pm; closed Saturday. Entrance 150 drs. It contains pictures of actors and plays, costumes, posters, personal objects of famous actors, portraits, busts.

**VORRES MUSEUM**, Paiania, Attica. ☎ 664-2520, 664-4771. Open Saturday & Sunday 10am-2pm. (appt. for groups). Entrance 100 drs; children & students free. Contemporary Greek art.

**WAR MUSEUM OF GREECE**, Vas. Sofias & Rizari. ☎ 729-0543. Open 9am-2pm; Sunday 9:30am-2pm; closed Monday. Entrance free. It contains weapons, memorial and historical heirlooms of the battles of Greece.

## HOTELS

**THE ATHENS HILTON**, Vas Sofias 46. ☎ 722-0201.  
**Ta Nissia**, traditional Greek and international cuisine in an elegant atmosphere, with a fabulous,

**The Athenian Lounge**, serving morning coffee, sandwiches and snacks for lunch; afternoon tea (accompanied by music) or any of your favorite drinks.

**The Pan Bar**, with soft piano music.

**Pool Garden Restaurant**, (operating spring/summer) with barbecue parties every Monday. Call the Hilton for more information and/or reservations.

**ATHENAEUM INTER-CONTINENTAL**, ☎ 902-3666

**Pergola**, Atrium Lobby. International and Greek specialties: buffet and à la carte; pastry and salad buffets; Sunday brunch. Open daily 6am-2am, breakfast, lunch, dinner.

**Première Restaurant & Bar**, rooftop with a panoramic view of Athens. Kebab specialties. Live entertainment. Mon-Sat, 9pm-1am. Bar 8pm-2am.

**La Rôtisserie**, Atrium Lobby. Superb French cuisine. Fine wine cellar. Piano music. Tues-Sat, 9pm-1am.

**Café Vienna**, Atrium Lobby. Indoor café and bar, Viennese pastries, ice cream and coffee; Crêpes in the evening, piano music. Open daily 11am-1am.

**Kublai Khan**, Atrium 1. Unique Mongolian barbecue and firepot; Chinese specialties. Mon-Sat 8pm-1am.

**Kava Bar**, special cocktails and drinks; piano music. Open daily 6pm-2am.

**ASTIR PALACE**, Syntagma Sq. ☎ 364-3112 or 364-3331.

**Asteria restaurant**. Service til 1:30am.

**Apocalypsis**, Astir's gourmet restaurant. Everything from Russian caviar or Greek eggplant salad to chateaubriand or shepherd's lamb... and crêpes suzette and baklava. Live piano music. Lunch 12:30pm-3:30pm, dinner 8:30pm-1am.

**Coffee Lounge and Asteria Restaurant**, ideal for quick snacks or complete, leisurely lunches: crêpes Poseidon, cheese pie, lamb curry, sweets galore. Open 7am-1am.

**Athos Bar**, piano. Open 9:30pm-1am.

**ASTIR PALACE**, Vouliagmeni. ☎ 896-0211.

**Grill Room**, downstairs café restaurant, piano music; sometimes a small orchestra for dancing. Open daily 1pm-3:30pm and 8pm-2am.

**LEDRA MARRIOTT HOTEL**, ☎ 934-7711.

**Panorama rooftop**, Open till September.

**Ledra Grill**, (international specialties) open 2 October until end of May, from 8pm. Nightly live entertainment to the sounds of Franco Matola and his guitar. Reservations recommended.

**Kona Kai**, Polynesian food complete with waterfall, recessed pool. Open 7pm-12:30am. Expensive but well worth it. Tepanyaki, Japanese exhibition cooking, food prepared at special tables of 8; cook is part of the party; special arrangements and reservations necessary.

**Zephyros Coffee Shop**, open daily from 6:30am, served à la carte or buffet; specialty: eggs à la minute. All-day menu 11am-11pm; salad bar geared to business lunches, wide selection of international, local dishes; late night menu 11pm-1:30am; Sunday brunch 11am-3:30pm, buffet serving hot and cold dishes, wine on the house.

**Crystal Lounge** Piano bar. Song and Piano, M. Hatze-giannis. Tuesday without music.

**MERIDIEN HOTEL**. ☎ 325-5301/9

**Brasserie des Arts**, French cuisine, superb chef, tasteful portions, unique service. Open for lunch, 1pm-3:30pm, and dinner 8pm-1:30am. Last order taken at 12:45am.

**Athenian Bistro**, snacks and buffet with Greek specialties, daily from 7pm-2am. Great for business conferences.

**CHANDRIS HOTEL**. ☎ 941-4825.

**The Rooftop**, snack bar by the pool, 10am-6pm. Restaurant/buffet dining, 9:30pm-1am.

## CENTRAL

**CORFU**, Kriezotou 6. ☎ 361-3011. Menu includes popular standbys of Greek cuisine as well as some variations from Corfu. Open daily noon-1am.

**DELPHI**, Nikis 13. ☎ 323-4869. Excellent lunchtime spot,



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*Sunday closed*



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Neo Psychiko

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BEHIND VASSILOPOULOS

very good, reasonable prices. Open 11am-11pm.

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

**DRUGSTORE**, Stoa Korai. ☎ 322-1890. Take-off on its Parisian cousins. Open 8am-2am except Sundays.

**EVERYDAY**, Stadiou 4 and Voukourestiou corner. ☎ 323-9442. Cafeteria convenient for coffee, croissants, pastries and ice cream. Open 7am-2am.

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

**KENTRIKON**, Kolokotroni 3. In arcade next to the Athenée Palace Hotel. ☎ 323-2482. Full taverna fare including beef sfito, beef in earthenware.

**KOSTOYIANNIS**, Zaimi 37 (Pedion Areos), Excharchia. ☎ 821-2496. Large selection of appetizers. Main dishes are among others rabbit sfitado (stew with onions), souvlaki with bacon, and quail. Closed Sunday.

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

**SINTRIVANI**, Filellinon 5, near Syntagma. ☎ 323-8862. Greek cuisine, extensive variety of dishes including souvlaki and moussaka.

## KOLONAKI

**BAYAZZO**, Ploutarhou 35 and Dimoharous, Kolonaki. ☎ 729-1420. The name means "Theatrical Clown" in German. Lunchtime salad "fountain", champagne brunches. Dinner specialties include bouzouki frivolitef (calamaria stuffed with pine nuts and rice), vine leaves stuffed with sea bass mousse, eggplant with ouzo-flavored mincemeat and yoghurt. Sunday Closed.

**DIONISSOS**, Mt Lycabettus (accessible by the funicular at the top of Ploutarhou St, Kolonaki) ☎ 722-6374. A top one of Athens' landmarks with a view of the entire city. Open daily 9am-12:45.

**DEKAKO**, Soudias 51, Kolonaki. ☎ 723-5561. Small restaurant with pleasant atmosphere, a small number of well-prepared dishes. Good bar (with snacks). Open daily 12pm-5am. Closes in the summer.

**GEROFINIKAS**, Pindarou 10, ☎ 362-2719, 363-6710. Fine Greek and Constantinople cuisine, fresh fish, out-of-season fruit and eggplant purée. Cosmopolitan atmosphere. One of the city's grand old restaurants. Open daily noon-11:30pm.

**JE REVIENS**, Xenokratous 49, Kolonaki. ☎ 721-0535; 721-1174. Piano; Kalkanis, guitar; Papadopoulos, singer; Maria

Aristofanous, T. Arvanitidis.

**NOUFARA**, Kolonaki Sq 21. ☎ 361-4508. Restaurant.

**ROUGA**, Kapsali 7, Kolonaki Sq. ☎ 722-7934. Set off in a small cul-de-sac ("rouga" means lane). Open nightly 8pm-2am. Sunday Closed.

**VLADIMIR**, 12 Aristodimos, Kolonaki. ☎ 721-7407. Swordfish in Hollandaise sauce, crêpes.

## PLAKA

**BAKALIARAKIA (TA)**, Kydathinaion 41. ☎ 322-5084. Basement taverna specializing in salt cod in batter served with garlic sauce. Souvlaki and delicious salads.

**HERMION**, café and restaurant in a little alley off Kapnikareas (near Adrianou St cafeteria square). ☎ 324-6725; 324-7148. Delightful spot for Sunday lunch with good Greek cuisine (a light touch with the olive oil). Friendly service. Open 8pm-12am.

**MILTONS**, Adrianou 19, Plaka ☎ 324-9129. Charming island atmosphere. Large steaks, fresh fish. Open daily 11am-1am. Perfect for business lunches and evenings. Reservations suggested.

**PALIA TAVERNA KRITIKOU**, Mnissikleous 24 ☎ 322-2809. Liza Chrysochoou, Aristides Routsos. Terrace.

**PSARRA**, Erotodritou and Erechtheos St. ☎ 325-0285. An old favorite, great for Sunday lunch, swordfish, souvlaki, taverna fare; special spot for locals and residents. Open 12pm-5pm and 7pm-2am 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 8pm-2am daily.

**STROFI**, Gali 25, Makrygianni. ☎ 922-3434. Sunday closed.



## DIOSCURI restaurant - bar

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Business lunch menus

## LUNCH AND DINNER

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SUNDAYS CLOSED

**SOCRATES' PRISON**, Mitseon 20, Makrygianni. ☎ 922-3434. Charcoal-grilled chicken and swordfish, rolled pork with carrots and celery in lemon sauce, roasted lamb with mushrooms, meatball casserole. Pikerni wine, laced with wine from Santorini (barrel). Sunday Closed.

**THESPIAS**, taverna on Thespidos St. Special menu includes lamb-liver, roast lamb, bite-size tiropites. Roof garden and outside garden opposite; quality service, reasonable prices. Open 12pm-2am.

**TSEKOYRAS**, Epipharmou 2, Plaka. ☎ 323-3710. Wednesday Closed.

**XYNOS**, Ag. Geronda 4. ☎ 322-1065. Old Plaka taverna with extensive fare, including stuffed vine leaves, fricasee. Wine from the barrel. Guitar music. Closed Sunday.

## KIFISSIA/NORTHERN SUBURBS

**APOSTOLIS**, Gortinias 11, Kifissia. ☎ 801-1989. Spinach and cheese pies, sweetbread pies, fillet of beef, oven-baked cutlets. Open on Sundays for lunch.

**BELLE HELENE**, Paleologou 1, Kifissia. ☎ 807-7994. In a lovely green park with two small lakes. An international modern cuisine. Specialties: steaks, fresh seafood and snacks. Coffee shop open all day. Also caters for special parties. Open daily 10:00am-2:00am.

**BLUE PINE**, Tsaldari 37, Kifissia. ☎ 807-7745. "Gourmet Magazine" made its cheese and eggplant bourekakia world-famous 30 years ago. Specialties: sweetbreads, brains, curries. Excellent charcoal grills and the single fish dish is always fresh. Closed Sunday.

**CAPRICCIOSA**, Kassaveti and Levidou 2, Kifissia. ☎ 801-8960. Pizzeria. Open daily 10:00pm-2:00am.

**GRAND CHALET**, Kokkinara 38, Politeia, Kifissia. ☎ 808-4837. International cuisine with Greek specialties. Piano and songs. Very expensive; very fine.

**LOTOFAGOS**, (Lotus Eater), Ag Lavras 4, Kifissia, behind the station. ☎ 801-3201. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday. A buffet of unique international recipes created by the charming hostess. The buffet includes a choice of soups or one of two or three hors d'oeuvres; one of two special main dishes with vegetables, salad and wine. This restaurant is praised all over Europe. Limited seating. Reservations a must.

**MOUSTAKAS**, Harilaou Trikoupi and Kritis, Kifissia. ☎ 801-4584. Also open for lunch on Saturday and Sunday.

**MT.PARNES CASINO RESTAURANT**, ☎ 246-9111. Smoked salmon, prosciutto, Fournedos Rossini. Piano, guitar, song. Closed Wednesday.

**NIKOS**, Skopelou 5, Kifissia. ☎ 801-5537. On a road running parallel to Odos Marathonos, turn right just before the Mobil station at Nea Erythra.

**PEFKAKIA**, Argonafton 4, Drossia. ☎ 813-1211. Youvet-sakia sfitado and large array of mezedes.

## HILTON/US EMBASSY AREA

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

**FATSIOS**, Efroniou 5 Pangrati (south of the Hilton). ☎ 721-7421. Good selection of well-prepared Greek and Oriental specialties. Open daily 12pm-5pm.

**OTHELLO'S**, Mihalakopoulou 45, Illissia. ☎ 729-1481. Speciality: beef stroganoff. Open daily from 12pm-2am. Closed Sunday.

**ROUMELI**, Panormou 107, Ambelokipi (across the park from the Apollon Towers). ☎ 692-2852. At lunchtime a wide selection of Greek dishes. Evening specialties are charcoal broils. Open daily from 12pm until late. Bakaliarios, bifteki, snails baked fish (gavros).

## HALANDRI/MAROUSI PSYCHICO/ENVIRONS

**ALATOPIPERO**, Konstantinoupoleos 9 Maroussi. ☎ 802-0636. Youvassi and chicken sti gastra. Open daily.

**AU CAP LYONNAIS**, 144 Mesogeion, Maroussi. ☎ 681-4705. Garden closed on Sunday.

**ERATO**, Varnali 7, Halandri. ☎ 683-1864. Greek and international cuisine. Service til 2am.

**DER SPIEGEL**, Fragoklisis 2, Marousi. ☎ 684-6393. Just like home with international cuisine. Service til 1:30am.

**HATAKOS**, Irodou Attikou 41, Maroussi (just below the KAT Hospital). ☎ 802-0968. A variety of seasonal dishes. Speciality is lamb in filo.

**KYRANITA**, Ithakis 4, Halandri. ☎ 682-5314. Greek cuisine. Music. Open daily 6pm-2am. Closed Sundays.



## TEX. MEX.

### ORIGINAL WESTERN RESTAURANT

Opening hours:  
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat  
7pm - 1am

Sunday, holidays  
2pm - 1am  
Monday closed

13 KYPROU ST, GLYFADA  
TEL: 894-3128

**PETIT FLEUR**, Plataion 6, Marousi. ☎ 802-7830. Service til 2am.  
**ROUMBOS**, Ag Antoniou, Vrillissia. ☎ 639-3515. Closed Sunday. Pork with olives, beef au gratin, garkoumba.  
**THE VILLAGE II**, Moraitou 82 and Vrana (Neo Psychico). ☎ 671-7775. Pleasant village atmosphere, good service. Specialties: lamb cooked over grapevines, frigandeli, charcoal-broiled quail. Wednesday Closed.  
**TI PRASINO**, Plateia Drosopoulou, Filothei. ☎ 681-5158. The taverna with (perhaps) the fastest service in Athens! The menu includes grill (sausages, chops, souvlaki and hamburger steak) and delicious deep-fried meatballs. Salads. The meat is all top quality. Lunch 7:30pm-midnight.

### PALEO PHALERON/ALIMOS

**CAMINO**, Pizzeria-trattoria, Poseidonos 54, P. Phaleron. ☎ 982-9647. Piquant pastas, pizzas and choice cuts of meat are specialties; draught Heineken and Santorini bottled house wines. Not as pricey as neighboring Italian restaurants.  
**NAIADES**, Naiadon 58, P. Phaleron. ☎ 983-4557. Veal cutlet stuffed with prosciutto and mozzarella. Garden. Closed Sunday.

### PIRAEUS

**DOGA**, Deliyiorgi 45, Evangelistria. ☎ 411-2149. Specialties: snails, kebabs, kokoretsi, puréed yellow peas with onions (fava).  
**KALYVA**, Vas Pavlou 60. ☎ 412-2593. Colorful cartoon murals, dining balcony overlooking the sea and Microlimano. Established reputation for excellent quality meats. Open daily 8pm-2am.

### GLYFADA/VOULIAGMENI SEA-SIDE

**ADONIS**, L. Kalamakiou 85 Kalamaki. ☎ 982-0002. Open for lunch and dinner. Shrimp ragout, charcoal-grilled octopus.  
**BOUFFE (LA)**, Aghiou Alexandrou 67, P. Phaleron. ☎ 981-8547. French cuisine. Specialties include moules marinières, soupe à l'oignon, coq au vin, bourguignon, beignets aux pommes, profiteroles.  
**EL GRECO**, Metaxas 20, Glyfada. ☎ 894-3165. Various fish dishes, baked and grilled.  
**EL PRIMO**, 15 L. Metaxas, Glyfada. ☎ 894-1501. Fillets and schnitzel. Piano.  
**EPICURE**, 17 L. Poseidonos, Vouliagmeni. ☎ 896-1237. Hamburgers, fillets with roquefort. Also in Voula, Metaxas 16, ☎ 895-3544.  
**LE FAUBOURG**, Metaxa 43 and Pandoras, Glyfada. ☎ 894-3608. A full menu of meat dishes including calf liver cooked with onions and bacon, a house specialty. Open daily except Sunday, for dinner only.  
**MERMAID FISH & SHIPS**, Plateia Horikon, Glyfada (behind Hotel Arion, Lazaraki St). ☎ 894-3481. Traditional fish & chips and other English specialties. Open daily 1pm-12am. Take-out, (local) home delivery and catering services available.  
**NAFTIKOS OMILOS VOULIAGMENIS**, ☎ 896-0741. Fish. Terrace. Monday & Tuesday Closed.  
**NEIRIDES**, M. Kavouri Harbor, Kavouri. ☎ 896-1560. Fillets. Terrace.

### SEAFOOD

**AGLAMER**, Akti Koumoundourou 54-56, Microlimano. ☎ 411-5511.  
**ANDONOPOULOS**, Frederikis 1, Glyfada. ☎ 894-5636. An old and comfortable restaurant with an extensive seafood menu. Open daily from morning to midnight.  
**BOULLABASSE**, Zisimopoulou 28, Amfitea (behind the Planetarium, Syngrou Ave). ☎ 941-9082. Boullabaisse, fresh fish and a variety of shellfish. Open nightly 7:30pm-midnight.  
**KUYU-KAPLANIS**, Navarchou Votsi 23, Microlimano. ☎ 411-1623.  
**LAMBROS**, on the shore road, Poseidonos 20, Voula. ☎ 896-0144. Variety of appetizers and a good assortment of fish. Moderately expensive. Open daily 12pm-2am. Closed Mondays.  
**MICROLIMANO**, (or Turkolimano, as it is still called in Piraeus) now hosts 22 seafood restaurants, all offering a good meal with excellent service at a table by the sea. Every taxi driver knows where it is, but if you want to use transportation take the metro to Phaleron station. Another less well-known and less expensive seafood row in Piraeus is at **FREATES**, around from the Zea Marina yacht

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# 8

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9 harbor. Several restaurants offer fresh fish and a cliffside view of the sea.

**NAUTILUS**, in Ambelokipi, one block south of the President Hotel (off Kifissias at Fthiotidos 6), features fine cuisine, an elegant mahogany and linen decor, and Big Band Music. The cocktail bar is well-stocked and a great place for after theatre/cinema get-togethers. Open 8pm-2am. ☎ 693-0089 (Mykonos devotees will recognize Jimmy's Ornos Bistro specialties).

**PSAROPOULOS**, Kalamon 2, Glyfada. ☎ 8945677. One of the oldest seafood restaurants on the marina, open year round. Tasty dishes, tasteful prices. Open 12pm-4pm and at night 8pm-midnight.

## STEAKHOUSES

**PONDEROSA**, Kifissias 267, Kifissia. ☎ 801-4493. Restaurant/Charcoal Grill Steak House. The specialty is American-style steaks and salads. Behind Olympic Airways, near Plateia Kifissias.

**THE STAGE COACH**, Leoforos Kifissias 18, Marousi ☎ 684-6995. A popular steakhouse since 1971, formally located in Kolonaki, it is now situated in Amarousi. With garden. Lunch and dinner. Reservations advisable. Closed Sunday.

**STEAK ROOM**, Eginitou 6 (between Hilton and US Embassy). ☎ 721-7445. Full menu featuring charcoal broils. Includes a bar. Reservations advisable. Sunday Closed.

## VEGETARIAN

**EDEN**, Flessa 3, Plaka. ☎ 324-8858. Charming meeting place for travellers; juices, salads and sweets. Specialties: lasagne (soya), bourekai and hot chili. Terrace in the summer. Open 12am-12pm.

## GREEK CUISINE

**APAGGIO**, Megistis 6, Kalamaki. ☎ 983-9093. Traditional food from all over Greece. Open til 12am. Monday closed.

**DIOSKOURI**, D. Vassiliou. Neo Psychiko. ☎ 671-3997. Wide range of seafood and grilled dishes. Specialties: charcoal-grilled fish, cooked specialties (casseroles and stews).

**THALIA'S**, 15 Thalia's Ag Dimitrios. ☎ 973-3885. Friendly atmosphere, love of tradition. Service til 12:30am. Sunday closed.

**MYRTIA**, Trivonionou 32-34, Mets. ☎ 902-3633; 902-3644. Service til 12:30am. Sunday closed.

## TAVERNS

**BAKIRIA**, Mavromichali 119. ☎ 363-9383. Sunday closed.

**DEMOKRETOS**, Demokritou 23, Kolonaki. ☎ 361-3588. Sunday closed.

**LENGO**, Nikis 22, Syntagma. ☎ 323-1127.

**PITHARI**, Daskalogianni 17, Lykabettus. ☎ 644-0530.

**RODIA**, Aristippou 44, Lykabettus. ☎ 722-9883. Sunday closed.

## FRENCH

**LE CALVADOS**, Alkmanos 5 (near Athens Hilton). ☎ 722-6291. A touch of Paris with a comprehensive menu from house pâté to mousse au chocolat; including a variety of steaks with original sauces, shrimp with curried rice, and cheese fondue. House wine. Specialties from Normandy and fine Calvados, of course. Sunday Closed.

**L'ABREVUOIR**, Xenokratous 51, Kolonaki. ☎ 722-9106. Steak tartare. Garden.

**LES GRANDS BOULEVARDS**, 21 Alexandras Ave. ☎ 643-7935. Live piano music and song and a varied menu presented. Service til 12:30am. Sunday closed.

**PRECIEUX**, Akademias 14. ☎ 360-8616. Restaurant above the upmarket "deli". Flounder fillet, salmon fillet. Air-conditioned. Closed Sunday.

## KOREAN

**SEOUL**, Evritianias 8, Ambelokipi (near President Hotel). ☎ 6924669. Specialties: beef boukouti (prepared at the table), yasté bocum (hors d'oeuvre), haimon gol (seafood and vegetables prepared at the table), tsapche (Korean noodles with black mushrooms). Sunday Closed.

## ITALIAN

**AL CONVENTO**, Anapiron Polemou 4-6, Kolonaki. ☎ 723-9163. Gourmet specialties: pasta and scaloppine. Open nightly 8pm-1am. Closed Sunday.

**AL TARTUFO**, Poseidonos 65, P. Phaleron. ☎ 982-6560. Specialties: spaghetti, pizzas, scaloppine, fillet à la Tartufo, carbonara, tortellini à la crème. Open daily 12:30pm-1:30am.

**AQUARIUS** Kifissias Ave 108. ☎ 691-4325. Specialty is spaghetti aquarius. Service til 1:30am.

**ARCOBALENO**, Nap Zerva 14, Glyfada Sq. ☎ 894-2564. Specialty: shrimp provençale. Open daily 6:30pm-1:30am.

**BOSCHETTO**, Evangelismos Park, Hilton area. ☎ 721-0893.

**DA BRUNO**, Ag Alexandrou 46, P. Phaleron. ☎ 981-8959. Closed Monday.

**DA WALTER**, 7 Evzonon and Anapiron Polenou, Kolonaki. ☎ 724-8726. Spacious bar. Specialties: rigatoni with four cheeses, fileto Piedmontaise, sauce madeira, profiteroles. Open nightly 8pm-1am.

**IL FUNGO**, Poseidonos 68, P. Phaleron. ☎ 981-6765. Specialties: filetto, 22 kinds of pasta, 20 varieties of pizza, 16 different scaloppines. Open nightly 8pm-2am. Saturday 12:30pm-2:30am.

**LA BUSSOLA**, near metro station Kifissia. ☎ 808-3912. Formerly "Da Bruno". Under the same management as "La Bussola" in Glyfada, Vas. Freiderikis 34, ☎ 894-42605. Fillet à la Diabolo and "Triptiō à la Boussole" (three kinds of pasta with special sauces and cheese) are among the specialties.

**LA FONTANINA** Vas. Georgiou 31, Kalamaki. ☎ 983-0738. Specialty is Madagascar fillet. Service til 1:45am.

**LA STRADA** Ethn. Antistaseos 107, N. Psychiko. ☎ 671-0370.

## MEXICAN

**AZTEC**, Leaf Kifissias 267 (near the Trohonomo). ☎ 801-5335. The first Mexican restaurant in Greece. Menu includes a glossary of dishes.

**BUFFALO BILL'S**, Kyprou 13, Glyfada. ☎ 894-3128. Specialties Tex-Mex, Spare ribs. Monday closed.

**LA TEQUILA LOCA** 19 Dio Charous Str. Ilisia. ☎ 723-9386. Mexican taco bar. Live music Tuesday and Thursday. Latin Salsa the spirit of Mexico.

## CHINESE

**CHANG'S HOUSE**, Doiranis 15 and Athidon, Kalithea. At Syngrou Ave 190-192, turn right. ☎ 959-5191; 959-5179. Reasonable prices. Open daily for lunch & dinner. Special chefs from Taipei and Hong Kong. 160 varieties of Chinese dishes.

**CHINA**, Efroniou St 72, Ilissia (Between Caravel Hotel and University Campus). ☎ 723-3200; 724-5746. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Superb Chinese cuisine by chefs from Taiwan and Hong Kong in a luxurious atmosphere. Reasonable prices. Specialties include Peking Duck, spare ribs, shark's fin soup, etc.

**GOLDEN DRAGON**, Syngrou Ave 122 and G. Olympiou 27-29. ☎ 923-2316. Reasonable prices. Open daily 12:30pm-3:30pm and 7:30pm-midnight. Closed on Sundays.

**KOWLOON**, Kyprou 78, Glyfada. ☎ 894-4528. Open daily 12pm-3pm for lunch and 7pm-1am. Specialties include fried rice, baked duck and king shrimps.

**LONG FUNG TIEN**, Alkionidou 143, coastal road near EOT Beach. ☎ 895-8083. You can choose chop suey, spring rolls, and Chinese noodles, among other dishes. Peking duck must be ordered 24 hours in advance. Every Sunday Chinese buffet lunch at a fixed price. Monday Closed.

**MICHIKO** 27 Kydathineon Plaka. ☎ 322-0980. Sushi and sashimi bar. Menu 5.250 drcs. Service til 11:00pm. Sunday Closed.

**PAGODA**, Bousgou and Leaf Alexandras 3. ☎ 643-1990; 644-6259. Chinese cooking, decor and service. Dining room for dinner parties. Specialties include soups, prawns, chicken and beef dishes, sweet and sour meat and fish, lobster Cantonese, Peking duck, steamed snake. Desserts include lichees, fresh mango in season and sweets.

**HUA LUNG**, 55 Efroniou (opposite the Caravel Hotel). ☎ 724-2735; 724-2736. Restaurant with Chinese specialty. Open daily 1pm-4pm and 7:30pm-12:30am.

**THE RED DRAGON**, Zirini 12 and Kyriazi, Kifissia (near the Zirinio Sports Center). ☎ 801-7034. Cantonese cuisine. Specialties: Malaysian noodles with shrimp, crab with chili, beef with fresh ginger root.

**THE PEKING CHINESE RESTAURANT**, 6 Fedras and Karapanou. ☎ 893-2628. We recommend anything sweet and sour. The chef adds chili sauce, making the sweet and sour slightly fiery. Open daily from 1pm.

## SPANISH

**CAMILON**, Polyta 39, Ano Patissia. ☎ 201-0592. Unusual appetizers, very tasty paella and sangria. Specialties: sepias con olivas (cuttlefish with green olives), pork mandarin (baked pork fillet with pineapple and orange). Spanish and Latin American music. Open nightly from 8pm. Closed Sunday.

**SEVILLA**, Theognidos 11-13 (beginning Ag Sostis Church). ☎ 932-3941. Spanish and French specialties, music and songs. Paella, Andalusian steak, little meat loaves, Sevilla sangria. Monday Closed.

## CYPRriot

**AMMOHOSTOS**, Bousiou 43, Erythros. ☎ 692-0269.

**APHRODITE**, Konitsis 12, Goudi. ☎ 775-2467. Garden.

**FAMAGUSTA**, Zagoras 8, Ambelokipi. ☎ 778-5229.

**GALATEIA**, Valtetsiou 50-52, Exarhia. ☎ 360-1930.

**KIRKI**, L. Pentelis 1, Kefalari. ☎ 808-0338. Garden.

**THE BEAUTIFUL CYPRUS**, Idraspou 11, Ano Ilisia. ☎ 775-6176. Garden. Sunday Closed.

## MUSIC RESTAURANTS

**AVANCE**, Xenokratous 43, Kolonaki. ☎ 723-0151.

**ALT BERLIN**, Kolokotroni 35, Kefalari. ☎ 801-5792.

**MARTHA'S**, Kifissias 252-254, Halandri. ☎ 671-7890. Singers Jannet Kapougia and Christos Konstandenis. Sunday Closed.

**MEMORIES**, Markou Mousouri, Mets. ☎ 922-6672. A. Bekris, I. Iosifidis, A. Pavlides and M. Alexiou.

**PICCOLO MONDO**, Kifissias 217, Marousi. ☎ 802-0437. Singers Renato, Danae, Panos and Kelly. Sunday Closed.

**PLACE THE AGORA**, Kifissias 10, Marousi. ☎ 684-0392. Piano; V. Bondas, guitar; D. Katakouzenos, song; Natassa. Sunday and Monday Closed.

**ROMEO**, Levendi 3, Kolonaki. ☎ 723-0507. T. Toulatos, S. Kritikou, V. Zouboulis and C. Farkaki. Sunday Closed.

**TIFFANY'S**, Maximou 1, Kefalariou Sq. ☎ 801-9373.

## PIANO RESTAURANTS

**ATHENAEUM**, Amerikis 8. ☎ 363-1125. Service til 1am. Sunday Closed.

**BORGHESE**, Vas. Sofias 89, Marousi. ☎ 805-1315.

**GOURMET (LE)**, Epidavrou 10, Kastella. ☎ 413-337. Sunday Closed.

**GRAND BALCON (LE)**, Kleomenous 2, Kolonaki. ☎ 729-0712. Monday closed.

**EL PRIMO**, Metaxa 15, Glyfada. ☎ 894-1501. Service til 1:30am.

## CRÊPERIE

**MARIONETTE**, Ippokratous 40. ☎ 363-5065. All types of crêpes.

**DOMI & CLAUDE**, Kekropos 26, Glyfada. ☎ 962-6919.

**LE PERROQUET**, Lazaraki 20, Glyfada. ☎ 894-7856. All types of crêpes. Tuesday closed.

## RESTAURANT BAR

**ACTUEL CENTER**, Kleomenous 44. ☎ 724-9861; 724-6061.

**VLADIMIROUS**, Aristodemou 12, Kolonaki. ☎ 721-7407. Artistic rendez-vous near Lycabettus Hill. Open til 2am.

**IRIDANOS**, Iridanou 7, Hilton. ☎ 722-4154.

**BALTHAZAR**, Tsoha 27, Ambelokipi. ☎ 644-1215.

**JAZZ BAR TSAKALOF**, Tsakalof 10, Kolonaki. ☎ 360-5889.

**HALF NOTE**, Fthiotidos 68, Ambelokipi. ☎ 644-9236.

## TEA BAR

**KOPERTI**, Sina 46. ☎ 361-6003. Salads, cheese, hot dishes, tea and coffee.

**LOTOS**, Glavkou 14, N. Psychiko. ☎ 671-7461. Crêpes and salads, 24 types of tea. Sunday Closed.

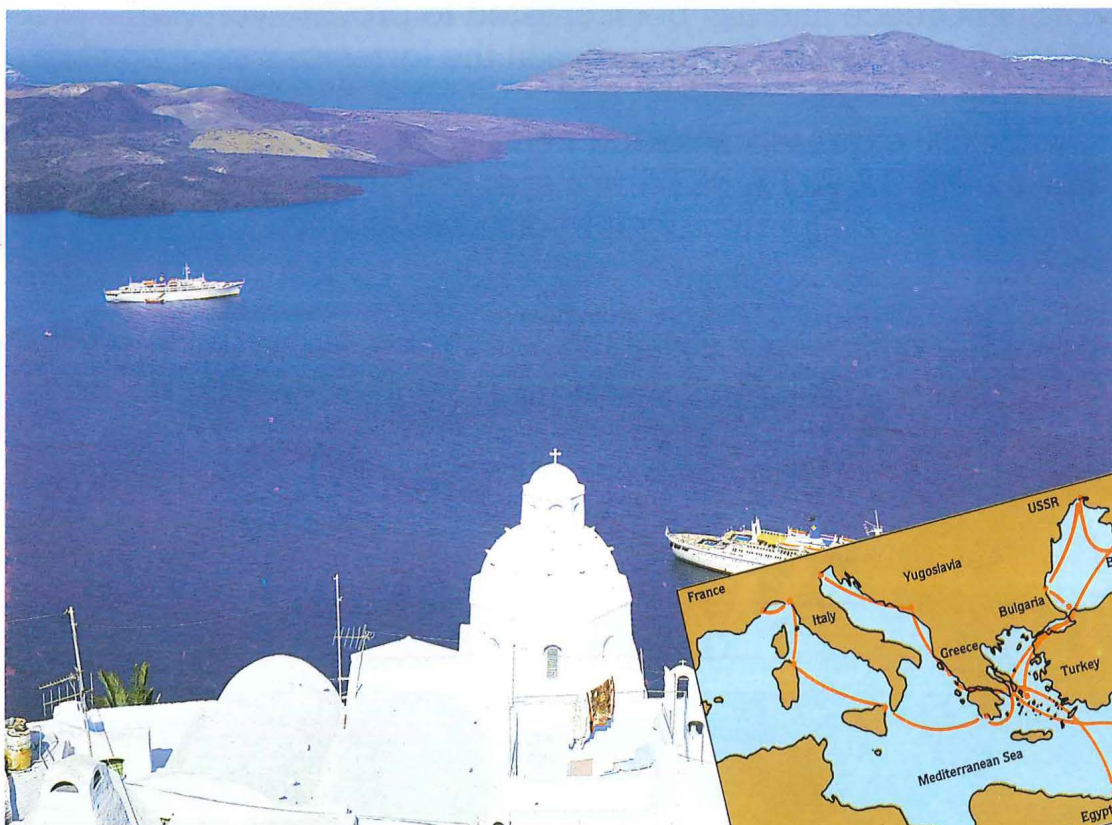
**FOTAIERIO**, Ippokratous 74, Exarchia. ☎ 362-2362. 21 types of tea, crêpes, juice and food.



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