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The Price of Freedom: Greece's Role in the Cold War

Hristos X. Tzolis

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THE PRICE OF FREEDOM: GREECE’S ROLE IN THE COLD WAR

by

HRISTOS XERXES TZOLIS

Under the Direction of Jared Poley, Ph. D.

ABSTRACT

Much of the available scholarship today underplays the role of Greece within the context of the Cold War between, the United States and the Soviet Union. The purpose of this study, we will place Greece as the test subject of a modern approach to war by Washington in assuming a neo-colonial master’s role to reconstruct Europe post World War II. The following thesis will challenge the preconceived notion that Greece and the United States entered into this diplomatic arrangement with only the intentions of containing communism. This research will concentrate on the role of political fear, through government legislation and political rhetoric played out in the Cold War. Re-contextualizing the Greek crisis and the Cold War will bring awareness to the early dawn of this ideological war, or as Howard Jones describes it, a new kind of war, and how it was the basis for future foreign interventions by Washington.

INDEX WORDS: Greece, Cold War, United States, Foreign Policy, Communist containment, Covert operations, Police state
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HRISTOS XERXES TZOLIS

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Masters of Arts in the College of Arts and Science Georgia State University 2012
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by

HRISTOS XERXES TZOLIS

Committee Chair: Jared Poley

Committee: Larry Grubbs

Electronic Version Approved:

Office of Graduate Studies
College of Arts and Sciences
Georgia State University
May 2013
Dedication

I would like to dedicate this thesis to everyone who has fought and perished against the injustice that was created from the ideological differences of the two super powers. This was a bitter war that created schisms between brothers. This battle for justice divided many allegiances which caused undue hardship and often death to the innocent. This war was destined to create more than just history. It was destined to create a split between the countries of the world that is still seen today, thus causing new paths of tribulation and adversity that still consumes the lives of the innocent as they seek to overthrow their oppressors.
Acknowledgements

This thesis would not have been possible if one man had not risked his life and future to come to the United States from Greece back in 1976. My father, Ioannis Hristos Tzolis, left his family and friends to achieve his dream of success in the United States. He subsequently met my mother and started a family here in the United States. Although they divorced when I was only three years old, my father’s heritage always stayed with me as I was consumed with curiosity about the rich history of his homeland, Greece. Thank you, Dad, for staying with me throughout the hardship and the rough years; I truly appreciate your support and words of encouragement.

I would like to take this time to thank a special person who came to me at a very early age before I started my undergraduate career at Augusta State University. When I thought that going to college was out of reach, she told me to always strive for higher goals. She told me that I was worthy of attending college, as the first person from my family to attend an undergraduate program. She stuck by me through all my fears and hesitations in enrolling at Augusta State University. She helped encourage me to maintain good grades and to take this journey in life very serious. Without Valerie Chancey, Ed. D. staying by my side in the early stages of my academic career, this exact moment would not have been possible period. In order to get to this point, her dedication, love and admiration made me feel positive despite being out of high school for seven years before enrolling at Augusta State University. Dr. Chancey, without you the following professors would have never knew me. Nor would they have had the chance to help me as a graduate student writing a thesis about a subject I hold dear to my heart. I love you, not only as my other mother, but I love you for the person you have always been to me… one of my best friends. Thank you for your advice and making a stubborn, young kid realize his potential in academia.
I would like to thank my Committee Chair, Jared Poley, Ph. D., for being very supportive and understanding over my graduate career at Georgia State University. Without having him as my adviser and chair, I do not know what I would have done going through the trials and tribulations of graduate work mixed in with the personal hardships that I have faced over the past few years. Thank you for all that you have done for me as a student and as a historian.

I would also like to thank Associate Professor in Political Sociology Minas Samatas at the University of Crete. His generosity and kindness in granting me permission to utilize his research of the δηλωείς gave me the opportunity to show how these documents were used in this Greek culture of fear. My inability to travel to Greece and find these documents as primary sources was understood by Professor Samatas. His benevolence in aiding my research will not go overlooked and I am deeply indebted to his kindness. Thank you Professor Samatas.

Finally, I would like to thank Charles Fissel, Ph. D. at Augusta State University for giving me the courage and dedication to pursue a graduate degree in history. Dr. Fissel has given me words of wisdom and insight that steered me in the direction to attain my Masters degree at Georgia State University. When I thought differently about my ability to pursue such a degree, he told me that I was more than capable of not only attaining this degree, but also developing research that would be insightful for historians of both Mediterranean and Cold War scholarship.
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Figure 1.4 ΥΠΕΥΘΝΟΣ ΔΗΛΩΣΗ #4 ................................................................. 92
Introduction: Greece within the Context of the Cold War

This thesis will open new pathways of research and scholarship into an era of state-run fear in the lives of citizens in post war Greece. By examining the diplomatic relationship between Washington and Athens post-occupation, I hope to reposition the role of Greece at the dawn of the Cold War in a much more vital role within this historical period. Much of the available scholarship today underplays the role of Greece within the larger context of the Cold War between the two super powers, the United States and the Soviet Union. By doing so, historians must make direct assertions concerning Washington’s future foreign policy within the larger context of Cold War policies. For the purpose of this study, we will place Greece as the test subject of a more modern approach by Washington, examining how the United States assumed a neo-colonial master’s role in its bid to reconstruct post World War II Europe. When I decided to undertake this research topic, I was often reminded of my childhood growing up during the Cold War era and how the threat of the communist menace was rampant in American political rhetoric.

After the end of the Civil War in Greece, communism was viewed as a dissident course of thought according to the Greek government. Through their state oriented procedures and initiatives, such as psychological warfare, political fear through suppression and terror tactics. The Greek government sought to engage their citizens on an emotional level. Washington knew that Greece was going to be the beginning of a long, bitter war between the political ideologies of communist Moscow and the capitalist west. Washington knew the complex and difficult
situation in Greece would require a different approach in methodology after the British pulled out of Greece abruptly.

Washington’s complicit and direct “engagement in Greek domestic strife degenerated into ‘colonial control’ based on ‘neo-imperialist’ methods” after the initial decree of the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan.¹ Secretary of State Adlai Stevenson and then President John F. Kennedy both “argued that Greece provided a model for American action” in future foreign interventions.² These two statements direct this study to assume the vital role Greece would play in the containment of communism during the Cold War. The ruling right-wing state transformed Greece into a police state was run by the παρακρατος (“shadow-state” or parastate) which was influenced heavily, but clandestinely, through political rhetoric and language instituted by United States agencies in direct contact with the ruling Greek government.³

The following thesis will challenge the preconceived notion that Athens and Washington entered into this diplomatic arrangement with only the intentions of containing communism. The following research will concentrate on how the role of political fear, through government legislation and political rhetoric, played out in the larger Cold War dialogue between the anti-communist Greek government and the surviving communists in post—Civil War Greece. This re-examination of the narrative is crucial to the argument that despite being a democratic nation, Greece was actually teetering along the lines of a Communist state and its oppressive nature. I am particularly interested in contextualizing the reasons behind Washington’s insistence upon

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³ Mogens Pelt, *Tying Greece to the West: US-West German-Greek Relations 1949-74* (Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum Press, 2006), 44.
the Greek cause and investigating how this diplomatic relationship affected Greek sovereignty and the legislation used to suppress Greek communists.

1.1 The Inception of Oppression in Post-Occupation Greece

The mission by the United States to restore democracy and order in Greece, with the containment of communism, was simply a pretense to establish a modern conflict against Moscow. This wave of Greek legislation should be viewed as a modern approach to fear through political rhetoric and language directed at the eradication of the communist other. In this particular study, the other refers to Greek communists. This modern conflict of political ideologies in Greece destroyed the political viewpoint of communism by any means necessary, including bringing physical or psychological harm to the subjects. Through Washington’s complicity regarding their diplomatic relations concerning the ruling Greek leadership, a form of legitimacy gave credence to the repressive nature of political rhetoric and language directed at the destruction of the Communist party.

The Greek legislation was seen as retribution for past aggressive acts called the *Red Terror* (1946-1948), which was enacted by the Κομμουνιστικό Κόμμα Ελλάδος, the Greek Communist Party (KKE), during and after the German occupation of World War II. What followed was a reign of repressive tactics which included loyalty oaths to the Greek government repenting past association with the Greek communist party and possible exile to make-shift *re-education camps* set up throughout the Greek islands (beginning in *Makronisos* and followed by *Yaros*). The emotionality of this subject comes into question when addressing this complex issue of political fear and repression. Unfortunately many Greeks, innocent and guilty, perished under this campaign by the government against communism.
The result from these various political mechanisms of fear and terror were directed towards the members of the KKE and other suspected communists. Those Greeks who were suspected of suspicious activity or disloyalty in Greece fell under this blanket of fear which lasted from liberation (1945) to the coup d’etat of the Greek Colonel’s Junta (1974). After the liberation of Greece, communists became embattled with arduous legislation from the ruling Greek government including the ‘emergency laws’ 512 and 516 (1948). These laws were enacted to prohibit any and all subversive thought infiltrating the Greek government through the communist party. Emergency law 516 instilled the Greek loyalty board as an “authority to decide” whether Greek employees (“present or prospective”) were to be considered loyal enough through their personal loyalty statements to the Greek government.

These laws were seen as an impetus of the Greek government’s “thought-control” directives aimed at dispelling the communist ethos from Greek society. A few years later, the ruling Greek government would pass Greek Law 1612 (December 31, 1950) as a measure to “reactivate(d) the Metaxas Espionage Law 375 (1936)” by trying under martial law those Greeks considered to be traitors because of their connection to communism, treating them as if they were “spies of the Soviet Union.” Under this revamped law against communists, the suspected communists would be tried under crimes against both the “national security of the state and of

the Greek armed forces.\textsuperscript{8} The fear of government control now besieged the people of Greece, as daily activities became questionable due to the loyalty of each Greek citizen.

An enduring political vacuum ensued in Greece from liberation to the emergence of a ruling group of Greek colonels (1967-1974) in which a recurring dominant political agenda transpired daily. This political agenda included late night arrests of suspected communists, unlawful interrogations of the arrested, and many forms of torture and psychological warfare including deportations to un-inhabitable Greek islands which were transformed into make-shift work prisons. Many Greeks felt the desire to become government informers against their fellow neighbors to assuage the daily pressures of life in Greece. In 1962, Greece had 60,000 informers to a population of 8.3 million which ranks Greece third in comparison to such communist countries like East Germany (with 100,000 informers to a population of 17 million) and Romania (with 400,000 informers to a population of 23 million).\textsuperscript{9} These statistics easily show how misleading a democratic government in Greece existed, as the state utilized a culture of fear to police the populace.

Greece was the only European country deemed non-communist in political ideology that also used of a police apparatus to keep the civilian population at bay. All the while, the United States justified their complicity in Greek affairs by granting legitimacy to their anticommunist tactics through the principle of fear from an impending Soviet territorial expansion and the Greek


government’s ineffective nature in dealing with their issues. The majority of available scholarship dealing with the Cold War in Greece tends to focus on diplomatic and political topics such as the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan.

The breadth of Cold War historiography leans towards mentioning Greece as important during the Truman era but wanes as future administrations focused on the Middle East and other geopolitical areas of vested interest in the region during the Cold War. Most Modern Greek historians focus their research on the debate concerning the validity of terror and fear which emanated from the ruling Greek government’s directives and policies from a top-down approach. I wish to address the importance of Greece within the breadth of Cold War scholarship as the test case showing how the United States battled the Soviets in Moscow without actually engaging in a shifting war against the communists.

1.2 Repositioning Greece within the Historiography of the Cold War

Recent scholarship delving into the past of Greece focuses on diplomatic relations, economic stagnation, foreign interventions by the United States or Great Britain, and political and internal strife relating to the anticommunist movement in Greece. I employ a more personal approach when dealing with this convoluted issue of repression and resentment within the Greek socio-political sphere. By concentrating on specific tactics of control, I show how the Greek government gained diplomatic influence regarding their domestic policy via Washington’s advisers. These actions further divided the Greek population into an us versus them situation involving fear and oppression as the preferred mechanisms of governmental control. Many surviving Greeks do not wish to relive this era or maintain a vow of silence in fear of reprisal, it

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10 Central Intelligence Agency, *Current Situation in Greece (October 1948)*. This document illustrates the manner in which Washington used their position in Greece to dispel the “strengthening of the Communists”, which would lead to a “Communist Greece”, 2.
has been difficult to gather primary sources for this topic in post—Civil War Greece. These reservations by surviving Greeks made my initial topic of research shift from a bottom-up approach to the nature of fear in Greece to a focus on how this fear in Greece situates in the larger, context of Cold War historiography. By concentrating on how anti-communist policies were utilized as a means of oppression and control, this laid the foundation for similar policies in Europe and the Middle East during the Cold War by the United States and their allies. A localized Greek historiography has begun to appear by academic historians such as Riki van Boeschoten and Anatasia Karakasidou, who have utilized a micro approach when contextualizing many issues of identity and nationality in Greece within the wider frame of the world. My goal is to bring together an approach focusing on the way many Greek citizens felt emotionally during a time where loyalty and disloyalty meant one’s life politically, mentally and physically through the context of the Cold War dialectic. Through this method of undemocratic fear tactics, the ruling anti-communist political agenda produced a fragile, yet, resistant Greek subject forced to make grave decisions regarding their political beliefs and the safety of their families.

Greece’s importance within the Cold War is typically downplayed in the majority of current available scholarship. Instead, a focus of scholarship needs to contend with the “ideological and political origins” of the Cold War took place outside of the areas of Washington and Moscow. 11 By examining the shifting ideology of Washington’s initial focus of rehabilitation onto the ideology of the “colonial experience” neo-colonialism was achieved by political rhetoric aimed

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against those who held the communist ideology steadfast. This advancement of the American version of modernity went head to head against the Soviet version, translating into the death of many different ethnicities in various centers of conflict far from the safe confines of these super powers. Greece was the beginning of this Cold War between the Empire of Justice and the Empire of Liberty as Cold War historian Odd Arne Westad described an “apocalyptic fear” which both sides felt if the other side stood victorious after the Cold War.

The German invasion of Greece (April 1941) came as no surprise to many Europeans given the rise in popularity of Adolf Hitler’s National Socialist party during the previous decade in Germany. The Nazis started their plan of world domination in 1938 with the conquest of Czechoslovakia. The Nazi party would became synonymous with fear and terror to all those who were not of German-born nationality. The German invasion of Greece was brought on by the lack of control by their Italian allies headed by the fascist leader, Benito Mussolini. Hitler decided some “kind of intervention” in the Balkan region was needed in order to “rescue Italy… from a humiliating defeat” at the hands of the Greeks. Hitler viewed Greece as a symbol of “human culture” which would he envisioned as a “moment of triumph” for his Nazi party. What the Greeks would call H Κατοχή/”The Occupation” would prove to provide the “primary catalyst for resistance” within the Greek population.

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By June 1941, all of Greece would be under the rule of the Axis Powers, while the Nazis focused their efforts in controlling Athens, Salonica, Crete and a number of the Aegean islands.\textsuperscript{17} To add insult to injury, the Greeks were forced to “pay the costs of the occupation”, thus resulting in a “devastating famine” in the winter of 1941-1942 which claimed the lives of some 100,000 Greeks.\textsuperscript{18} This inhumane treatment would ultimately destroy the Greek population if this course of action continued by their Nazi occupiers. The people of Greece were overwhelmed with a “sense of patriotism” for their homeland; this would prove vital in support of the armed resistance against the Axis powers.\textsuperscript{19} Resistance by the Greek population took on many forms.

Active resistance against the Nazi gave birth to the influences of the Greek Communist party, the \textit{Κομμουνιστικό Κόμμα Ελλάδας} (KKE). In September 1941, the \textit{Εθνικό Απελευθερωτικό Μέτωπο- National Liberation Front} (EAM) was formed in an effort to organize the “resistance and a free choice as to the form of government on the eventual liberation” of Greece.\textsuperscript{20} The EAM would later form the military division of their resistance which would be known as the \textit{Ελληνικός Λαϊκός Απελευθερωτικός Στρατός- Greek People’s Liberation Army} (ELAS). Greek historian Mark Mazower states that during the Nazi occupation many “memoirs suggest that patriotism was perhaps the most single most important reason why individuals joined ELAS”, thus causing a degree of concern within the recruits “when it turned out that they were to act against an ‘internal enemy’ as well as the Germans.”\textsuperscript{21}

\textsuperscript{17} Richard Clogg, \textit{A Concise History of Greece} (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992), 121.
\textsuperscript{18} Richard Clogg, \textit{A Concise History of Greece} (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992), 121
\textsuperscript{20} Richard Clogg, \textit{A Concise History of Greece} (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992), 122-123.
collaborator to the occupiers were now on the list for retribution by the communist influenced EAM.

ELAS, he would argue, did not fight for the sake of Communism, “but for what it called a dual war of liberation – for national liberation against an external oppressor, and for internal social reform” within Greece. This is crucial to keep in mind as this retribution would breed animosity by those targeted by the resistance movement. Although the resistance in Greece would not be solely be recognized as a Communist movement, the formation of the non-Communist Εθνικος Διμοκρατικος Ελληνικος Συωδεσμος- National Democratic Greek League (EDES) would accept the role as another agent of the Greek people’s active resistance against the fascist Nazis. The Resistance against the Nazis would evolve into a more calculated and developed plan of action in Greece in hopes of expelling the enemy.

The November 1942 attack on the Gorgopotamos rail bridge would also be known throughout the free world as the “first major act” of resistance in occupied Europe against the Nazi menace. These acts of active resistance would set the stage for the Greek ethos to adhere to a sense of resistance against the act of oppression by foreign entities. After the occupation, the resistance mind frame of the Greeks would adapt to the localized pressure and the marginalization of the communists by the Greek government. Despite the mutual distaste for the fascist control of Greece, the two sides did not always agree with each other over ideological differences concerning the future of Greece. Mazower claims that although the ideal of

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communism became “more popular” during the occupation, “it remained the allegiance of the minority” due to the constant “political indecision” and bickering within the EAM.²⁴

Mazower notes that from its “inception,” the Greek resistance was plagued “by a lack of centralization and an unusual degree of local initiative” causing much dissension within the ranks.²⁵ From the beginning, there was “friction between” the Communists and non-communists alike which would continue after the liberation of Greece, causing these tensions to translate into what would be known as the Red Terror and the White Terror.²⁶ Later in chapter two, I will discuss further the reasoning and ramifications of these events of terror upon the Greek populace. Tension between the Communists and non-Communists “created a climate of fear and suspicion” between the two parties as the “euphoria of liberation began to fade” in Greece.²⁷

While most of Western Europe “underwent constitutional revolutions” in the wake of World War II, Greece did not follow suit as their fellow Europeans. Greek historian Nikos C. Alivizatos argues that the “political ideas and social values of the Greek resistance” was not incorporated into the “nation’s post-liberated institutions.”²⁸ The ruling Greek government instead focused its efforts on maintaining “the appearance of constitutional legality” within Greece, subsequently creating the “conditions” which would lead to civil unrest between the Greek populace.²⁹

1.3 Constructing Post-Occupation Greece in the Cold War Context

To bring together a viable argument for this research, it is necessary to discuss the primary and secondary sources used to formulate my argument. One major problem I face regards the availability of primary sources: the Greek government will not release many pertinent documents relating to this era for national security measures. I have contacted the history department, through various e-mails, at the University of Aristotle-Thessaloniki to procure some published loyalty statements and civic-mindedness certificates. Their response guided me to the General State Archives located in the Macedonian region.

Previously published loyalty statements from Minas Samatas’ article “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-Civil War Repressive Anticommunism and the U.S. Truman-McCarthy Era” (see Figure 1.1 and 1.2), appeared in the Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora in 1986. Professor Samatas has generously me permission to use these loyalty statements in my thesis research. Samatas states that there is little difference in the clinical nature of these documents, as they all follow a similar structure. Throughout this study, these particular δηλωεις will be vital in understanding how the use of the statements cultivated the emotion of fear in the Greek populace. These forced confessions against the will of the Greek people lasted till the end of the Colonel’s Junta (1974) which caused a major strain upon the populace into a state of constant fear from their own government. The δηλωεις became one of the main functions of παρακρατος as an apparatus of their intention to oppress dissension. These δηλωεις will be discussed further in chapter three as the study will examine the similarities in how the statements were customarily prepared in order to assert the accused communist’s national pride in Greece.
ΥΠΕΥΘΥΝΟΣ ΔΗΛΩΣΙΣ

'Ο υπογεγραμμένος κάτοικος Χεσσονήσου, δηλαδή υπευθύνως και έν γιώσει τῶν συνεπειῶν τοῦ νόμου περί ψευδούς δηλώσεως τούτης τὴν διάρκειαν τῆς Καρτοχῆς προσεχόρησα ολειδοθελῶς εἰς τὸ ΕΑΜ τῶν χωρίων μου καὶ τῶν Αὐγουστον τοῦ 1944 ώς ἐνοπλοῦς εἰς τὸν ἀφεδρικὸν ΕΛΑΣ ὑπὸ παρεμεινα μέχρι τοῦ Δεκεμβρίου τοῦ ἑδύου ἔτους, ἐν ἔτει δὲ 1946 ὑπακούσας εἰς τὰς ἔντολας τοῦ κόμματος ἀπέσχον ἑαυτοῦ διεξάχθεσιν βουλευτικῶν ἐκλογῶν. Ἐκτότε ὅμως καὶ συγκεκριμένως ἀπὸ τοῦ ἑτούς 1947, ἀντιληφθεὶς τὴν πλάνην μου διέκοψα πάσαν σχέσιν μετὰ τοῦ ΚΚΕ, διότι δὲ καὶ ἀποκήρυσα τούτῳ σήμερον καθὼς καὶ τὰς παραφράδες αὐτῶν ὡς ἀντικυριεὶς, προδοτικὰς καὶ δράσεις εἰς βάρος τῆς ἐδαφικῆς ἀκαραιότητος τῆς πατρίδος μας.

Ἐν Χεσσονήσῳ τῇ 22)9) 1967.

'Ὁ δηλών

Δηλώσεις

'Ὁ κατωθινὸς υπογεγραμμένος, εξ 'Εμπάρου Πεδιάδου, δηλαδή υπευθύνως ὑπὲρ τοὺς θεοὺς ἐφήσεις ἐπὶ τοὺς διαστήματα εὐθύς μετὰ τὴν ἀπελευθερωθησαν τὸ κόμμα τῆς ΕΔΔ. Σήμερον δηλαδή διαπιστών ὡς τοῦ κόμμα τοῦτο εἶναι ἀντιθεολογικὸ καὶ προδοτικὸ καὶ ὡς ἐπὶ θαυμάσια τὴν ἀκαραιότητα καὶ τῆς ἐνδυσάμην ὑπόστασιν τῆς πατρίδος μου, ἀποκήρυσα τοῦτο καὶ τάσσομαι ἀνεπτυκτικοί παρὰ τὸ πλεπρόν τῆς Ἑλληνικῆς Κυβερνήσεως.

Ἐν 'Εμπάρῳ τῇ 14)8) 67

'Ὁ δηλών

Figure 1.1. ΥΠΕΥΘΥΝΟΣ ΔΗΛΩΣΙΣ #1. Published originally in Messogies, July-Sept. 1967 and reproduced with permission by Minas Samatas from his journal articles, Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era.
ΔΗΛΩΣΙΣ

'Ο κάτωθι ύπογεγραμμένος του Δημήτρης, έτος 26, κάτοικος Ανώ Αρχανών, παραστήσαται κατά την ἐφημερίδινη μου ἡλικίαν ύπό τῶν κηρυγμάτων τοῦ ξενοκινήτου κομμουνισμοῦ, δηλαδή σήμερον ύπευθύνως ὁτι ἀποκηρύσσεται αὐτῶν ὡς ἱδεολογίαν μὴ ἀρμόζουσαν εἰς ἔλεορέως ἀνθρώπους καὶ δή 'Ἐλπίδως, θεωρῶ αὐτῶν καὶ τὰ πόστερ σἀτες ὑποκατάσταται τοῦ ὡς ἀντεθνικά καὶ προδοτικά καὶ τὰς σαμιαν ἀποτυφυλάκτως παρὰ τὸ πλεύρον τῆς 'Εθνικῆς Κυβερνήσεως.

Ἐν 'Αρχανώι τῇ 11)8) 1967

Ο δηλὼν

ΥΠΕΥΘΥΝΟΣ ΔΗΛΩΣΙΣ

'Ο ύπογεγραμμένος ο Νικόλαος καὶ τῆς 'Ελευθερίας, γεννηθείς εἰς 'Ελοῦτα Λασιθίου καὶ κατοικῶν εἰς 'Ηράκλειον, δηλαδή διὰ τῆς παρούσης μοι ὧτι σώζετο ἐνεφορούμεν ὁπότε ἐριστερὰ φρονήματα καὶ ὧτι ἤμουν, εἰμί καὶ ὧτα παραμένω ἔθνικόροον, τὰς δὲ κατὰ τὰ ἔτη 1946–66 ληθείας καὶ δημοσιευθείας εἰς τοὺς Τύπους τῶν 'Αθηνῶν ἀνακοινώσεως τοῦ Συλλόγου Κρήτης που παραμείνατον εἰς ὧτι ἠγάκηκαν μέλη τοῦ Διοικητικοῦ Συμβουλίου, δι' ὧν παραπληρωντο τὰ μέλη τοῦ Συλλόγου ὡς 'λάθους μέρους εἰς τὴν «Πολεμική .waitKeyες» ὡς καὶ ἀλλὰ ἀνακοινώσεις τούτου ἀποδοκιμάζω ός ἐξειπθετούσας τὰ ἀντεθνικά συμφέροντα τῆς ΕΔΑ.

Ἐν 'Ηράκλειο τῇ 21)8)67

Ο δηλὼν

Figure1.2 ΥΠΕΥΘΥΝΟΣ ΔΗΛΩΣΙΣ #2. Published originally in Mesogeion, July-Sept. 1967 and reproduced with permission by Minas Samatas from his journal article, Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anti-communism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era.
Minas Samatas uses his article to compare and contrast the Truman-McCarthy era (1947-1955) through various internal legislative means and directives in the United States and Greece. I plan to use his research to illustrate the legitimacy given through Washington’s political language to the policy-makers of Greece and their domestic policies. This has opened up an area which will give credence to my argument that a culture of fear emanated from the Greek government headed in Athens. Within this culture of fear, many Greeks succumbed to the pressures of these oppressive techniques by stating their loyalty to Greece due to suspicious and questionable socio-political activities. These examples will bring together the language used to give legitimacy to Athens via the action of loyalty to Greece versus subversive, communist ideology.

Collected interviews with Spyros Markenzinis (a right-wing Greek politician from 1936-1973) and Anthony Bernaris (a right-wing Secretary-General of the Ministry of National Economy, Greece) will help place in context the actual relationship and diplomatic emotional plea towards Washington’s policy makers in the beginning of the anti-communist era of aid to post-occupied Greece. Both interviews will help explain the path to legitimacy given to Washington by these Athens policy-makers due to the status of Greece’s economy and state of their military by commending Washington’s effort to prolong the democratic government in Greece against a communist appropriation.

Markezinis states that it is “a mistake” to assume that Washington’s “primary purpose” was simply to aid Greece in an effort to curb the communist ideological warfare which was being waged in Greece. He simply states that the threat of “Soviet imperialism” was covered under

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the Truman doctrine regardless of ideological differences in the language directed by Truman concerning the survival of the free world versus communism. Bernaris’ interview will help place in context the fate of European economic recovery and how Greece’s future was germane to the success of Washington’s aid to the region.

The abundance of on-line documents and information from the United States government concerning their role in post-liberation Greece, allows us to see how and why these acts were allowed to continue in Greece. This study will use many historical documents from on-line archives of the Foreign Relations of the United States (FRUS) and Central Intelligence Agency (C.I.A.). These documents lend credence in relating the implementation of psychological warfare, the initial use of covert action in foreign countries during non-war events, the establishment of the intelligence community during the period of the Greek crisis and the reasoning behind Washington’s foreign aid and materiel to Greece during the onset of the Cold War. These documents will support my argument that the Washington did see Greece as an important geopolitical locale.

Washington would do anything necessary to keep the Greek government non-Communist by swaying her from any and all Soviet influence or involvement during this critical time in Europe’s post-war recovery. These sources will piece together the path which would lead anti-communist officials to initiate this culture of fear within Greek socio-political by way of the influential American officials dictating the state’s methodology of oppression concerning communists. These documents are readily available online at the Truman Library online website at http://www.trumanlibrary.org and through the C.I.A.’s website for Cold War documents at

Many national Greek historians (such as the aforementioned Minas Samatas and John O. Iatrides) and modern European historians (such as Howard Jones and Mark Mazower) have produced valuable histories of the Cold War and Greece.

Greek sources also shed light on the larger issues at hand. The biography of Ares Velouchiotis (Athansios/Thanasis Klaras –Θανασης Κλαρας) entitled Αρες, Ο Αρχηγος των Ατακτων: Ιστορικη Βιογραφια by Dionyses Charitopoulos will be used as a vital piece in constructing the complex psyche of the early Greek communist resistance during the occupation. Ares was an infamous leader of the communist influenced military wing ELAS during the occupations and the Civil War era in Greece. This will help formulate the mental effects of this “new kind of war” upon the Greek subject explored by the American and Greek officials in reaction to the communist takeover. Using Ares’ personal story of devotion and submission will demonstrate the difficulties attributed after signing a loyalty statement as Klaras did in a prison in Corfu (1939). This stigma stayed intact despite all his personal sacrifices and bloodshed for the sake of Greece’s freedom during the occupation. This particular treatment of Ares can be attributed to his role in the Red Terror by the rush of anti-communist fervor which swept over post-occupied Greece. The auto-biography of Vassos Georghiou, entitled The Unrepentant, will be a valuable asset in describing the culture of fear surrounding these re-education camps located on various desolate Greek islands. His personal insights into the daily lives of each of his acquaintances, whether friend or captor, helps contextualize the role of psychological fear instilled into the inhabitants of these re-education camps by their fellow Greek captors. In addition, this narrative will help illuminate the role of these camps to the victim as they were signaled out as leftists, even though most of these suspected communists were well on past their
youth. Despite this account taking place during the Colonel’s coup (1967-1974), Georghiou’s accounts of these camps are interchangeable regardless of the era that this auto biography was written. His incarceration in a camp during the anti-communist era after the Truman Doctrine provides insights as to how similar these times were despite being some odd twenty years apart from each other.

The camps were set up using the same method during the post-occupation of Greece as they were during the Colonel’s coup. The main purpose of these camps was for the re-education of any Greek even suspected of being associated with communism. Many articles relating to the point of view from the Western press will be used to document the awareness of the existence of these re-education camps in the vast, Greek islands. Mainly from the New York Times, these articles will help contextualize the role that Greece’s freedom played in the American media in relation to the numerous cases of documented human rights abuses in Greece during this era. Through awareness of these camps, the stigma of communism was utilized to desensitize the issue of human rights when reporting such atrocities in Greece. Despite the fact that many were simply accused of being communist or a sympathizer, these abuses contributed to the culture of fear which filled Greek society.

Chapter one will focus on the emergence of the state-run culture of fear which came through the government initiatives. By examining the minds of many political philosophers (from the Enlightenment to modern-day political scientists), this research will illustrate how the use of fear permeated in the daily lives of many Greek communists and non-communists alike. By closing out on Stathis Kalyvas’ chapter in Mazower’s After the War Was Over: Reconstructing the Family, Nation, and State in Greece, 1943-1960, I hope to address how this culture of fear was established through the terror campaign initiated by those Greeks considered to be leftists against
the Nazi collaborators (and those considered to be as well). This terror campaign carried over after the occupation into what is called the White Terror in response to the Red Terror campaign of the Nazi occupation. This issue of retribution against those leftist Greeks who terrorized (suspected and actual) collaborators became the cornerstone of Washington and Athens socio-political foreign and domestic policy during the initial stages of the Cold War. This was the backbone to legitimize the witch hunt in Greece of all communists and sympathizers.

Chapter two will focus on the secondary sources explaining how this anti-communist movement in Washington was translated through government rhetoric and legislation to combat the fear of this adverse ideology. With a careful survey of the literature of Minas Samatas, Mogens Pelt, and Howard Jones, this chapter will give an overview of the direction given by the Greek government, with monetary and materiel aid given by Washington, in its battle to keep Greece democratic despite the negation of many human rights and liberties. Through government legislation, this chapter will focus on who would be singled out by anti-communists legislation in a time of fear and retribution in Greece.

Chapter three will concentrate on the available primary sources from the United States and Greece alike, focusing on how the initiative to save Greece from the communist takeover was viewed as a necessary decision in which the ends justified the means. By reexamining this Cold War narrative into the focus of not what Greece meant to Washington as a geopolitical locale, but as the blueprint in combating the communist ideology in a battle between these Super Powers. By focusing on this path to keep Greece a democracy, despite the numerous measures under taken which caused the culture of fear to appear, the fight for Greece was viewed by Washington as just and by Athens as a means to right the wrongs of the Left during the Greek Civil War. By recontextualizing this argument from containment of communist ideology and
principles to a look at the means of state control and oppression of the others (i.e. communists) during the Cold War takes a major step with the oppressive government legislation and initiatives aimed at the communists. By addressing the reasoning behind future state fear tactics and government legislation against this adverse ideology, the Greek government declared this “new kind of war” against all Greek communists and those suspected of this activity. This dialectic between the two Super Powers has been told in many different ways, but what is imperative to understand is the methodology used by the state to oppress and control those considered the enemy of Greece.

This introduction sets the stage for an analysis of the impending culture of fear policy in Greece and the neo-colonial direction of Washington in an effort to halt the communists within the region. The importance of this era far exceeds what most scholarship allows presently, and I only hope to encourage more historians to explore this era in Greece and relate the Cold War to post Civil War Greece. The following chapters will set the stage for how life was affected in Greece at the hands of the anti-communist government and why this was allowed to transpire within the court of public opinion. Also, this research will introduce a police state which existed in a NATO ally like the neighboring Soviet states in Europe.
The Emergence of the Police State in Greek Society

After the end of World War II, the world was headed into a major transition between the victors, the United States and the Soviet Union. Europe was in a great need for assistance to rebuild not only its infrastructure, but its mental ability to move on past the horrors from the Nazi occupation. Greece was no different in this aspect. Its economy was in disarray from the extent of the Nazi occupation and the aftermath from the feud between the communists and anti-communist factions. The mental anguish endured until the Nazi occupation by the Greek populace continued after liberation under this battle for political legitimacy by the communists and anti-communists. This struggle for power in Greece was seen by Washington as a means to oppress any possibility of a communist victory. What transpired in Greece would be similar to a police state like in neighboring Soviet controlled regions. This would create the emotion of state run fear throughout Greek society. This section will lay the basis for the path that led to a Greek police state despite being considered a NATO ally.

After the liberation of the Greek mainland in October 1944, a political vacuum ensued, therefore, resulting in what would be known as the Greek Civil War (ο Εμφυλιος Πολεμος). This internal conflict lasted roughly from 1946-1949 partly in result as a response to the era known as the White Terror (1945-1946), which was the “persecution of the left.” Like the Nazi occupiers before them, “Greek authorities often carried out” mass shootings of Communists and those suspected of being Communists “in full view of the public, to ensure the maximum

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deterrent effect” against the leftist ideology. In an annual report (1945) to the newly appointed British secretary of state Ernest Bevin from British diplomat Rex Leeper, Leeper asserts that “Greece was quickly becoming dangerously polarized” during this mass persecution of the left. He described the Greek right as in a “vengeful mood” and were more than “willing” to arrest left-wing supporters regardless of their political values. These reports echoed the future of anti-communist oppression in Greece during the beginning of this era.

These mass arrests caused an increase in the number of Greeks thrown into the “overcrowded gaols awaiting trial” causing much distress and mental breakdowns for the imprisoned Greeks. The number of arrested Greeks (1945) totaled 17,984; 2,388 were “serving legally imposed sentences” while 15,596 were incarcerated for “preventive detention” according to a memorandum produced by the Minister of Justice Constantine Rendis. Greek historian John O. Iatrides described this era as a time when “clandestine right-wing gangs and paramilitary organizations” initiated this campaign of terror “indiscriminately against the Left” through “mutual suspicion, lawlessness, and intimidation (of) the Communists.” Rendis would go further as to place the total number of Greeks being prosecuted as exceeding 80,000 individuals, which would cause a severe back log of court cases due to the immense proportion of cases

waiting to be heard. The increasing number of arrests in Greece shows how the judicial system began to follow suit with the White Terror campaign that aimed at the imprisonment of those considered to be Greek communists in retribution against the Red Terror campaign. The function of the δηλωεις played out an important role in the imprisonment and rehabilitation of the communist Greek population.

In an effort to ease the stress placed upon the judicial system, the Greek government made the following decrees against all criminal offences committed between April 27, 1941 and February 12, 1945:

1) there will be no further judicial prosecutions except for cases of murder;  
2) prosecution will no longer apply to cases of incitement to murder;  
3) for the time being, no new complaints will be considered.

These laws was initiated in order to give those considered as collaborators during the occupation a chance at retribution to the communists who targeted them in the Red Terror campaign. This was just the start of governmental initiatives aimed at allowing those considered to collaborators or anti-communists the ability to direct their focus towards ridding Greece of the communist threat. The results of the March 1946 elections in Greece favored the “extreme right” which had been “accelerated by the inclusion” of sympathizers of the “puppet occupation governments” of World War II. Historian Richard Clogg attributes this victory of the Greek right to the “abstention of the left, the disarray of the centre and the continuing disorder… in the rural areas”

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consequently giving the Greek right-wing coalition an “overwhelming victory (55 percent of the popular vote).”

Right-wing activists “pushed” the police and the army to propose “drastic measures” with the appropriation of “wider powers” to oppress the Greek left. The elections of 1946 were a decisive moment as they “represented the last chance” for a peaceful resolution from the impending “civil strife” engulfing the Greek population. Greek historian David H. Close discusses the role that the modified structure of the Greek right portrayed within society during 1945-1950 by depending “heavily on violence” and “repressive forces” to maintain control over its populace. Close argues that the ruling Greek government tilted towards an authoritarian rule and its “primary desire” was a restoration of the “oligarchical political system” something the Greek left vehemently opposed. This course of action by the Greek government was only the beginning of what would be known as the White Terror.

John Iatrides describes the Greek Civil War as a symbolizing of both a “rejection” of past “economic realities and an attempt to seize the state in order to restructure” Greece’s economy by redistributing the wealth “in accordance with revolutionary dogma.” He goes further to discuss how after 1950, Greek “domestic and foreign policy developments” produced significant transformations in the way Greek “politics and society” handled those considered to be enemies.

of the state.\textsuperscript{16} The following chapters will focus on the various governmental decrees and initiatives aimed at the marginalization of the left and its sympathizers. Between the years 1944-1945, Greece became a hotbed for hostility between the right and the left socially and politically.

In December 1944, a fire fight between the EAM/ELAS troops and British troops transpired in Athens which would later be known as \textit{Τα Δεκεμβριανά/The December Events}. This was the first instance of fighting between the British troops and the Greek resistance which would become one of the “key events” in the early onset of the Cold War, resulting in a “decisive moment in the suppression of wartime radicalism.”\textsuperscript{17} Subsequently, one of the most important decisions made against the left was the \textit{Varkiza Agreement} outside Athens during mid-February (1945), which was arranged by the British authorities and Archbishop Damaskinos Papandreou in an effort to quell the influence of the EAM/ELAS. This agreement “provided for the disarming and disbanding of ELAS, the restoration of the civil authority, a plebiscite on the issue of the king’s return, and national elections for a constituent parliament.”\textsuperscript{18} One of the major repercussions from the Varkiza Agreement was the launching of a “wave of white terror” directed indiscriminately against the left which under resulted in the massive “boycotting” of the upcoming “parliamentary elections of March 1946.”\textsuperscript{19}

Between the disbanding of the ELAS/EAM as a political force, the banning of the KKE as a viable political party, and the hostile actions between Greeks and British troops in Athens; nothing prepared the Greek left for what was coming through the use of governmental legislation

and directives. The concessions from the Varkiza Agreement declared that all guerillas should surrender their arms and submit to the present Greek government, many guerillas refused to do so. Instead the guerillas retreated into the mountainous terrain of Greece to regroup and focus on reclaiming Greece in the name of the people. Mazower describes the reasoning of the this action of rebellion by the guerillas as not solely for a communist government, but instead as a desire to fight the oppressive act outlined by the Varkiza Agreement.

Their decision to take up arms was an assertion of everything that was most admirable in the Greek spirit – a fierce patriotism, a refusal to calculate where matters of honour (sic) were concerned, a stoic acceptance against overwhelming odds. It was not motivated by the desire to install a one-party state after the war.20

One of the most prominent figures in the struggle for freedom from the German occupation was Athanasios (Thanasis) Klaras (August 27, 1905- June 16, 1945), who later took the name of Ares Velouchiotis (Αρης Βελουχιοτης) during the German occupation as a nom de guerre. The combination of the first name Ares, the Greek god of war, and Velouchi, a Greek mountain located in the northern area of Greece was used as an attempt to show his allegiance and loyalty during a crucial and chaotic time in Greece. Klaras was arrested for his leftist ideology during the Ioannis Metaxas dictatorship (1936-1941) and was forced to sign a δηλωεις repenting his leftist beliefs while in a Corfu prison. Despite this attempt at social degradation, Klaras was begrudgingly welcomed back into the KKE because of the great need for strong, military leaders during this tumultuous era in Greek history. Klaras was appointed to head one of the military wings of the EAM under the name ELAS.

It was during the Red Terror era when Klaras became synonymous with the resistance and retaliation against collaborators and those suspected of such crimes. It was during Klaras’ last speech (October 29th, 1945) to an enormous crowd gathered outside his hotel balcony in his hometown of Lamia that he first insinuated that despite the “silence” given to the guerilla movement by the “reactionaries” the movement lives on through the people.21 Klaras refers to the people in the line, “the countryside is breathing” as a means to show that as long as people fill the land of Greece, the struggle will continue until every Greek is ensured freedom and equality.22

Klaras mentions the price of freedom of Greece costing the “struggle and suffering” of all has changed into an ideological battle between communists and non-communists. This mention of the Greek Civil War emerging in Greece was not a prophecy, but an inevitable clash of ideologies as a result of support for the non-communist faction in the Greek government by Washington’s foreign policies and aid. Klaras urged the people to understand fully the course outlined for the communist party in the future of Greece. Klaras stressed that they simply want to steer the country to promote a healthier lifestyle for “our people” under the auspice that “the people” are able to “vote without influence and for them to respect the will of the people.”23

Despite being ostracized by his party, Klaras defied the ruling Greek anti-communist government till his death in a firefight in the mountains of Greece. Defying the decree to put down all arms and cease any further military actions, Klaras and most of his troops retreated to

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the mountains to regroup where they were massacred at the hands of the Greek government troops. Klaras was decapitated and placed in full public view in the town of Trikala. This moment foreshadowed the impending White Terror campaign as the communists knew they were being targeted for retribution for their past misdeeds during the Civil War.

Klaras’ resistance to authority is representative of the Greek spirit to fight through the marginalization set forth by the anti-communists legislation. Despite being marginalized by his own political party after signing a repentance statement, Klaras put country first when the time to act against the Nazi occupiers. This meant Klaras would have to take direct orders from the same leaders who had once considered him a pariah and traitor to the communist party. This section on Klaras symbolizes that the Greek people, despite being oppressed by anti-communist legislation, would continue the fight for freedom even in the event of their own death. The Greek spirit aimed at fighting the impending oppressive government mechanisms would face a new kind of enemy, one that utilized fear in the socio-political sphere as a means to control the populace.

2.1 The Role of Fear in the Greek Socio-Political Sphere

The Greek government’s experiment in oppressive tactics geared toward the Greek left would prove to be very volatile to both sides of the political spectrum. The ruling Greek government would focus its policies and directives against the left in hopes of destroying any and all influence within the Greek political spectrum. The focus of anti-communist legislation would lead to Greece developing a culture of fear against those considered enemies of the state through their ideological differences. Cold War historian Mogens Pelt argues that these “battles over the institution” of political dominance helped to influence future American foreign policy
which forms the “liberty that mirrors the initiatives warranted for further foreign experimentations; such as the Philippines, Cuba, Greece, and Vietnam” to name a few.²⁴

Before addressing the state mechanisms of fear used by the Greek government during the right wing control of Greece, a clear background into the proper usage of the term fear must be defined. The word _fear_ comes from the Greek word _φοβος_ (phobos). It is a commonly defined emotion serving as a fundamental survival instrument appearing in response to a specific stimulus, such as the imminent threat of danger or agony. The following section will discuss how this culture of fear established control over a supposed democratic, post-occupational Greece. In addition, this portion of the thesis will outline the pre-conditions to this culture of fear in relation to the socio-political framework of the emotional being of the word _fear_ when dealing with the complexity of this Greek crisis.

Modern political scientist Corey Robin describes a culture of fear associated with the emergence of political fear as “a people’s felt apprehension of some harm to their collective well-being… or the intimidation wielded over men and women by governments or groups.”²⁵ John Locke described the emotion of fear as “an uneasiness of the mind” which is associated as a “spur to human industry” in relation to the uneasiness translated from actions of the oppressor against the subjects.²⁶ Other early-modern intellectuals help to create this awareness of the emotion of fear within the public sphere forming the emergence of the modern state and various facets relating to this new formation of government. Thomas Hobbes, who is considered the


²⁶ John Locke, _An Essay Concerning Human Understanding_, Alexander Campbell Fraser, ed. (New York: Dover,1959), 304-305, 344
father of the modern state, claimed that the initial acknowledgement of the subject to the emotion of fear is solely through the state’s main responsibility to inform the public.\textsuperscript{27}

Hobbes believed the most successful route for a modern state to flourish is through an absolute state. By having the power vested through a single autonomous agent and utilizing tactics far beyond the scope of conventional warfare with absolute control the state can instill the emotion of fear onto the awaiting populace. Hobbes alludes to an emergence of modernity within the course of impending foreign policy and population control for future world powers within the global, political sphere. Little did Hobbes foresee that his assertion between fear and future foreign policy would be most accurate in comparison to the relationship between Athens and Washington during the height of the Cold War era.

Political scientist Corey Robin describes Hobbes as the principal theorist to recognize “political fear’s galvanizing potential” to influence the make-up of a society to “establish the moral language and political codes of a society that had lost that language and those codes.”\textsuperscript{28}

The reformation of societal norms can restructure daily lives from that of normalcy into a state of constant fear, resulting in the emergence of a new culture dominant in fear. This new culture of fear which is based on a more modern, conventional method will be discussed later in the next few chapters with concerns to the παρακράτος (shadow state) which developed in post-occupational Greece. By allowing and accepting the government to oppress the communists, this changed Greek society into a culture which allowed fear to rule their existence. Fear from the government which could imprison or deport you at will. Fear from one’s neighbor who would inform on you for suspicious activities which would lead to your arrest or deportation. Fear from


\textsuperscript{28} Corey Robin, \textit{Fear: The History of a Political Idea} (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004), 28
being marginalized in Greek society without the everyday freedoms such as being employed or as simple as having a driver’s license. Hobbes describes the emotion of fear as having two main fundamentals in order to be successful in its mission to oppress certain subjects. This fear must be created through the state to “create a sense of common purpose” for “modern elites” to exert fear “in order to rule.”

In addition, the implementation of fear in society has to be a product of some “danger in the world” in order for the “illusion” of political fear to be successfully “exaggerated” and “magnified” by the state. This danger is easily translated into the dangers of the communist ideology to the free world post World War II. Hobbes is considered more of a prophesier of modern theory during his time, as he foresaw the ability of government to further control the population through a series of systematic, “formulated laws and specified punishments” designed for the “proper cultivation” of fear. This statement by Hobbes will become clearer to the reader after an understanding is given of what these particular governmental decrees and initiatives meant to the freedoms of those considered leftist in post Civil War Greece.

Intellectual historian William Reddy, author of *The Navigation of Feeling*, argued that emotions are a product of the “interaction with others” and their basis is contingent upon this contact. Despite that Reddy described the emotionality of fear which transpired during Revolutionary France (1789-1799) in his research. That same emotion of state run fear can easily be identified in the case of 20th century Greece as it materialized into a similar fashion, instilling fear into the hearts and minds of the Greek populace. The interaction of communists

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and anti-communists Greeks facilitates such a production of fear between both, causing the dialectic within the culture of fear. Reddy writes that as historians of the past, we should adhere to certain standards in understanding the emotional change of emotional suffering and liberties across a temporal and spatial landscape. Reddy contends he merely wants to develop further a “formal theory that establishes emotions as largely (but not entirely) learned” in the historical memory of emotional freedom. Reddy also argues that since all people have suffered at one point in their life, a feeling of understanding can be acknowledged by the subject with the specific place and time.

Through the theory of constructionism, a method of constructing mental understandings of one’s past surroundings, Reddy is able to argue that through human agency the expression of emotion can be understood through this theory of emotions no matter what their temporal and spatial location in historiography. He argues that emotions are regarded as “culturally constructed” and that they tend to become clouded with other disciplines asserting “biological and feminine” reasons for these emotional regimes. These emotional regimes place the value of emotions at the utmost importance in their “domain of effort” by recognizing the “emotional mastery” to be “difficult and changeable” and highly regarded in the societal sphere. The roles of emotions (“goal-relevant activations of thought material”) in post-liberated Greece were used as a psychological combative tool to marginalize the communists in a similar manner utilized by

Washington’s policy makers back in the United States, this form of oppression would attack the subject’s emotionality causing them to break down and submit to the state’s will.\textsuperscript{36}

This strict regime wishes to uphold an impecunious populace which views the government as not only the harbinger of legislative duties, but also as the natural selection to the survival of one’s personal well-being within the borders of Greece. Reddy notes that “fighting fire with fire” in a political situation by oppressing the populace of their personal freedoms causes an abundance of “emotional suffering” which only “perpetuate(s)” the threat of action to restore order by any means necessary.\textsuperscript{37} By “exploit(ing) the power of emotives to shape emotions” through various means of psychological warfare and legislative directives, the Greek government use of “emotional suffering becomes epidemic” in a post-liberated anticommunist Greece.\textsuperscript{38} Through human agency, Reddy argues that through emotional suffering the subject is able to mitigate through various means of “self-deception” to express the subjects’ cognitive adaptability to a lack of personal freedoms within the strict regime.\textsuperscript{39} This notion of “emotional liberty as a political ideal” holds the key to understanding the role of this ideological feeling of an us versus them marginalization that existed within the borders of post Civil War Greece.\textsuperscript{40}

Reddy’s study is critical in pointing out the need for research into the culture of fear instituted under the post-occupational, ruling Greek government. By understanding the level of personal freedom allowed within the police state of Greece, Reddy helps to formulate the

“concept of emotional liberty” by giving agency to the initiatives used by the state as oppressive techniques against communism. Reddy would argue that the marginalized communists developed a sense of sentimentalism which represented their outcry for political acceptance in a pro-Western, thoroughly conservative Greece.

One may begin to understand the emotional suffering that existed between those who felt oppressed and those murdered by the pro-Western Greek government. This quest for a “new… kind of emotional liberty” would prove fatal politically and in the nationalistic sense in belonging to Greece. Reddy’s argument may apply to Greece in that not only did the communists suffer emotionally and psychically at the hands of their oppressors, but also the system “affects all those” who might be suspected of adverse pro-conservative western thought.

To take a more modern approach to the emotionality of fear within the political sphere, we shall explore Hannah Arendt’s research into fascism. Political theorist Hannah Arendt’s research into the origins of modern political fear reflects an approach to understanding the concept of total terror unleashed upon the populace of a ruling, fascist government. This form of “radical evil” existed in response to the annihilation of the individual’s freedom within the public and political sphere. This type of fear will later be examined in chapter two in relation to the breakdown of the emotional self through the government’s oppressive tactics, i.e., the introduction of civic-mindedness certificates/Πιστοποιητικά Κοινωνικον Φρονιματον through

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state directives and the role of loyalty to Greece through δηλώεις (government issued repentance forms against subversive thought and association).

Arendt argued that modern ideologies of political fear were successful despite having “no appeal” to individualistic goals or “interests… or particular needs” pertaining to the individual; therefore, the result was the stripping of the individual’s “identity permanently.”45 By accomplishing this separation of the identity from the individual in society, the ability to instill fear into society is successful by creating a sense of primordial fear within the subject. Arendt argued that this primordial fear was readily present individually in society before the implementation of total terror to the masses, by doing so; the act of total terror upon society disconnected certain human attributes from society, such as “reason, identity, concern, and understanding.”46 Arendt contended that after this transformation was complete, the presence of total terror in society created an effortless path for the “behavior of its subjects” by fitting them for the “role of executioner and the role of victim” within the socio-political sphere according to political ideology of fear.47 This holds true in post Civil War Greece, as the White Terror raged a war of retribution against those who persecuted the non-communists during the Red Terror era.

Arendt’s understanding of the role of political fear and its relation to the formation of societal norms assists the comprehension into this complex issue of a culture of fear in Greece. Arendt serves as a basis to formulating the foundation of a modern approach to state oppression through political mechanisms of control concerning the separation of society according to an “us” versus “them” ethos. Though her research concerns the National Socialist party in Germany during World War II as well as the emergence of Stalinist communism, the

anticommunist era in Greece holds a strong comparison to the oppressive mechanisms of state control and methods used to eradicate unwanted members within the Greek population. The ability to transform members of Greece’s society into “specimens of the human animal” through political rhetoric aimed at instilling fear to combat the emergence of the communist ideology can be viewed as a process akin to the Nazi party’s marginalization of the Jewish citizens of Europe.\textsuperscript{48} This separation or conflict within Greek society is a product of the political fear which is established through the state’s mechanisms of control; therefore, the imbalance between communist versus anticommunist in Greece becomes more apparent and widely accepted despite the implications of humanitarian violations.

With his study of fear in politics, Robin implores the reader to address the conception of political fear with a focus into the perception of political fear by examining the “grievances and controversies that underlie it” to situate properly fear into its political context.\textsuperscript{49} Robin asserts that fear through political mechanisms are created through two means associated with the ruling government. First, once the ruling class assigns specific roles through a “prism of ideas” to mediate between what should be viewed as the “public’s chief object of fear,” the government accomplishes the formation of what should be feared.\textsuperscript{50}

After a successful socio-political division at the hands of the ruling government, political leaders utilize the threat of political fear primarily as a means of “internal intimidation… to ensure that one group retains… its power at the expense of another.”\textsuperscript{51} Robin contends that the intimate link between the elite’s power to protect society and that same power to control society is based upon a symbiotic nature that “our need for the first often bolsters our fear for the

second.” Robin argues for the need of a stable, equal form of government based on “principles of freedom and equality” in politics in order to avoid the mistake of a political foundation rooted in the “moral and political argument” of fear. In post war Greece, fear was the mechanism of oppression utilized to keep the communist threat at bay.

2.2 The Role of Terror within the Culture of Fear in Greece

After the German occupation, the main body helping to control the country was the EAM and their military wing, ELAS. Greek collaborators with the German occupiers had to be punished because of their lack of loyalty to Greece. Modern Greek historian Stathis N. Kalyvas, author of “Red Terror: Leftist Violence during the Occupation” in Mark Mazower’s edited book After the War Was Over: Reconstructing the Family, Nation, and State in Greece, 1943-1960, gives a background into the period during the German occupation known as the Red Terror perpetrated by the left against all collaborators (even those only suspected of collaboration with the Nazi troops). What is important about this article is it gives a strong account for the era in Greece when the left actually had a strong following due to the nature of their struggle, to free Greece from the German occupation.

Kalyvas details a difficult period of revenge and retribution of brother against brother, resulting in the implementation of fear by the future ruling Greek government against those considered leftist as payback for their past aggressions. This animosity would carry on far into the future of Greece as many would never forget this era of leftist violence known as the Red Terror. Kalyvas’ main point in his research is to challenge the notion that the “main… victim of violence” in Greece was not always the left by illuminating the Red Terror in Greece’s

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historiography, hence, disputing the “meaningless partisan debate on comparative cruelty” because “all sides (in Greece) resorted to terror” as a means for control and order. This behavior of retribution was a learned behavior during the occupation only to be translated towards the then aggressor by the collaborators after the end of the occupation.

Kalyvas argues that the success of a terror campaign is measured by the “maximum amount of compliance” through less activity, but with terror comes the emotional feeling of “resentment” directed towards the oppressor. This cycle of fear and terror seemed to reverse roles as soon as the German occupiers’ last convoy exited Greece and the new benefactors stepped in to instill order into the chaotic world which existed after World War II. This period of terror began the emotional link of resentment among those not considered a communist or leftist sympathizer leading to the period of retribution known as the White Terror. Kalyvas points out that this era of violence started out as a means for localized conflicts to become settled within the context of the larger violence of war and occupation.

As these “individual motivations” influenced “blood feud(s)… of individualized retaliation and counterretaliation” many acts of violence were a direct result of the constant presence of ELAS and their involvement in the Red Terror. From the ruins of a ragged Civil War that caused both extreme physical and mental damage, Greece advanced along the path of a

56 Stathis N. Kalyvas, “Red Terror: Leftist Violence during the Occupation”, Edited by Mark Mazower, After the War Was Over: Reconstructing the Family, Nation, and State in Greece, 1943-1960 (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000), 177. Kalyvas continues in his research to ascribe responsibility to the “political organizations” which helped organize this terror campaign as individual actors manipulated the original intention into a manner to “settle their own accounts” with “unanticipated mayhem”.
“right-wing state” that developed as an “expression of the intentions and beliefs of the victors.”

The ruling Greek government cultivated an environment of anticommunism that sat well with the America’s policy makers located in Greece, who in turn relayed the message of compliance according to the anticommunist ethos instructed via Washington. After the discovery of 200 plus bodies buried in an area once controlled by ELAS, the terror committed by the Communists prior to the Civil War could not be denied, therefore lending credence to the fear of a complete communist takeover and the evils that lie ahead of Greece under communism.

The corpses were discovered buried in an area “adjoining the water filter plant in the Galatsi area” in the northern area of Athens. Upon discovery, the victims appeared to have been forced to disrobe their clothing by ELAS forces before execution by various horrendous methods; such as “hatchets, blunt instruments or stoning.” Among the victims, “twenty-six persons” were “identified as members of the gendarmerie and seven members of the metropolitan police force.” After the end of the Civil War, anti-communists mounted a national campaign to keep communists from committing these atrocities from happening again to the Greek people. This behavior of fear and calculated terror of brother against brother gave way to an open path for the White Terror campaign. The sense of retribution and bloodshed stained the soil of Greece, while the fear of a communist takeover only gave authority to support such atrocities regardless of the human rights violations committed during the chaotic era in Greek history.

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The materialization of fear in politics was readily apparent in many European countries after World War II due to the acceptance of an adverse ideology in comparison to an accepted norm of capitalism in countries such as Romania and East Germany.\(^1\) Through many state mechanisms of control, the ruling elite established a culture of fear to oversee the individual in their natural environment. Pelt discussed the fear that radiated from the ruling Greek state to the communists and all “persons suspected of such intentions” in his study by placing the economic rehabilitation of Greece under the watchful eye of Washington.\(^2\) He cites two main mechanisms of fear utilized by the ruling Greek government. First, Pelt discusses the emotional existence of terror when referring to the response of the individual from actions by the state’s apparatus of control. The role of individual loyalty weighs heavy when discussing the personal sacrifice of each member of Greece during the post-occupational period to the end of the dictatorship known as the Colonel’s Junta (1967), in accordance to their role within the country. This role of state run terror relates to the role of terror portrayed in Ardent’s model of totalitarian state fear. This terror would create the primordial fear within the subject, thus, giving the Greek government the opportunity to rule through the emotionality of fear.

Second, he argues that a lingering effect of the Greek Civil War was the παρακρατος or shadow-state. The παρακρατος was originally initiated during the White Terror campaign (1945-1946) to eliminate all areas of communist ethos from Greece, but was carried over into the

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\(^1\) According to historian Dennis Deletant, the Romanian government assigned “prime importance” to the “ideological training” associated with the emphasis attached to the “sense of belonging” or loyalty devoted to one’s country. In doing so, the reaffirming of loyalty to the communist party “cocooned the member from insidious external influences”. Dennis Deletant, Ceausescu and the Securitate: Coercion and Dissent in Romania, 1965-1989 (New York: C. Hurst & Co. Ltd., 1995), 7-8

\(^2\) Mogens Pelt, Tying Greece to the West: US-West German-Greek Relations 1949-1974 (Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum Press, 2006), 42. Pelt continues to place the security of Greece’s economic recovery into the hands of West Germany under the term burden sharing. As a vital piece to the European recovery after WWII, Washington believed the key to this success was a mission accomplished regarding the Greek issue. To do so, the burden of a full recovery in Greece was shared with the emerging West German nation, which was a pretext for the Cold War between both super powers ideologies.
post-Civil War period as a result of legitimacy from their benefactors in Washington. This behavior of fear through the state was established through the emotion of retribution by the anti-communists as the initiative to quell the Greek communists from gaining influence and authority in post Civil War Greece. Pelt described this union between Washington and Athens as helping to influence many areas of Greece’s government, and even the “Greek security apparatus proper was modeled on US counterparts” resulting in the Κεντρική Υπηρεσία Πληροφοριών (ΚΥΠ/ΚΥΡ), the Greek Central Intelligence Agency (May 1953). This direct connection between Washington and Athens only solidifies Samatas’ argument for a police state built under Greek McCarthyism that emerged after the Civil War.

2.3 The Path to Marginalizing the Left in Greece

What is very interesting in this case is how a fear of communism manifested itself in Greece, despite the communists being the architects of resistance against Nazi occupation during World War II. Greece first saw the foreign aid from the British followed by foreign aid from Washington as a means for their economic recovery after a devastating World War II. A telegram dated March 3rd, 1947 to United States Secretary of State George C. Marshall from Paul Econmou-Gouras; Greece’s Minister of Foreign Affairs discusses the development of Greece’s dependency for foreign aid in wake of the impending crisis. He stresses the “magnitude of the difficulties” facing the nation of Greece in the midst of the Civil War due to a lack of “funds to

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63 Mogens Pelt. *Tying Greece to the West: US-West German-Greek Relations 1949-1974* (Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum Press, 2006), 44. Pelt discusses terror felt by the individual through actions by the Greek police force committing many human rights violations; including torture, harsh interrogations (whether innocent or not), unlawful detainment of suspected communists and a large population of police informers which ranks close to such communist influenced countries as Romania and East Germany. In addition, the legitimization of the παρακρατος, after the end of the Civil War, leads Pelt to access that many of the Greek governmental agencies and organizations were created and heavily influenced by their benefactors in Washington.

64 Mogens Pelt. *Tying Greece to the West: US-West German-Greek Relations 1949-1974* (Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum Press, 2006), 44-45. Pelt describes the “main purpose of KYP was to co-ordinate anti-Communist and anti-subversion programmes… (and) against internal enemies”.

finance… reconstruction” leading the Greek government “compelled to appeal to the
government of the United States… for financial, economic, and expert assistance.”65 This outcry
and dependence for economic assistance would allow Washington to act as a legitimate body
within the Greek socio-political arena. This aid from Washington gave the legitimacy needed for
Athens to deal with the communist menace by any means necessary, even if it meant the
violation of human rights against those only suspected of being communist.

On March 13th, 1947 United States Ambassador to Greece Lincoln MacVeagh sent a
telegram to Marshall reiterating the “exact English translation” by then head of the Greek
government Themistocles Sofoulis, who wished to convey his “deepest gratitude for the valuable
assistance” bestowed upon Greece.66 Furthermore, MacVeagh explains that Sofoulis considered
Truman’s advice “wise… condemning the extreme of the right and left” political ideology while
stressing “a policy of toleration” in Greek politics.67 This statement shows little translation into
reality by leading Greece into a moderate, center ideological stance considering the outbreak of
terror and violence towards those associated with leftist thought. In addition, the lack of
intervention by Washington granted some form of legitimacy to the policies and directives aimed
at the persecution of the left despite the apparent and numerous accounts of human rights
violations against the Greek people.

To stay in the good graces of their economic benefactors, the Greek government allowed Washington to place American politicians within the Greek political infrastructure to oversee the vast amounts of aid and to ensure it went to the proper places according to the concessions outlined in the Truman Doctrine. This installation of fear into the Greek culture was a method used by Washington to help solidify its place within the political pantheon of Greek reverence to battle the hardened, evil communists. Greece was added to Washington’s “strategic global network of bases and military agreements” in an effort to frustrate the threat of a Soviet expansion. By doing so, the gateway through to the Middle East was closed to Soviet expansion, causing a stalemate in Soviet ideology to stay influential in the Soviet Bloc area in Eastern Europe. Washington believed that through Greece, they could establish a blue print of a roll-back policy concerning the threat of a spreading communist ideology by further “add(ing) to the difficulties” of Moscow’s influence in Albania and Bulgaria, plus providing Yugoslavia “reassurance” in breaking away from Moscow.

2.4 A New Kind of War in Post Civil War Greece

The political rhetoric used by Washington to promote directives relating to anticommunism and anti-subversion had been established first by the policy makers in Washington. It was designed to safeguard the United States against the internal enemy of socialist American communist supporters. This adoption of Washington’s domestic policy by Athens to shape post Civil War Greece was seen as a measure to assure compliance from both sides regarding their individual requirements. Washington wanted to see Athens form a more “moderate government” in order to lessen the “right- and left-wing polarization” which

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ultimately led Greece into a Civil War. In doing so, Washington believed that Greece’s economic rehabilitation would be achieved by endorsing the formation of a “strong and stable government in Greece.”\(^{70}\) This was the ultimate goal for Washington: to allow Greece to oppress the communist supporters and thwart the crisis of a full fledged communist takeover.

The inception of intelligence gathering and covert operations became a standard procedure for the Americans located within the borders of Greece via the concessions of the Truman Doctrine. In a memo from the General Counsel for the Central Intelligence Agency (C.I.A.) in Houston to the initial Director of Central Intelligence Roscoe Hillenkoetter, the acceptance of “black propaganda” was seen through “two provisions” of the National Security Act (NSA) by interpreting these provisions “as authority for (the) CIA” to engage in acts of “subversion, confusion and political effect” in Western Europe against communism during peacetime.\(^{71}\) Previously, Washington’s foreign policy did not include measures for covert operations during peacetime in Europe. This development of covert operations led to the initial implementation of psychological warfare in Greece to combat the internal threat of communism within the Greek population by both Washington and Athens. The development of the Cold War made Washington look to new ways of hindering the political left in Greece from reigning victorious in this war of ideologies.

These actions by the CIA would have to be rooted deep within a cloak of secrecy in order to place accountability and responsibility of their actions away from Washington. Neither branch of the military would acknowledge any past or present operation considered to be black


\(^{71}\) FRUS 1947, “Memorandum From The General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency (Houston) to Director of Central Intelligence Hillenkoetter” under “Emergence of the Intelligence Establishment, Document 241”, http://history.state.gov./historicaldocuments/frus1945-50Intel/d241, (accessed February 19, 2011).
propaganda in nature. The Office of Special Operations released Directive No. 18/5 (March 29, 1948) which allowed authorization for a “Special Procedures Group… to engage in covert psychological operations outside the United States and its possessions” in order to facilitate “in a direction favorable to the attainment” of Washington’s direct foreign policy. This policy outlined Washington’s attitude to the containment and possible roll back of communism by any means necessary, without direct provocation against the Soviet Union during this volatile Cold War era.

The result was the formation of the National Clandestine Service (NSC) as one of the main components of the CIA. This branch of the United States’ government was responsible for the covert, psychological operations aimed at the containment of Moscow’s ideological influence under directive 10/2. Directive 10/2 (June 18, 1948) outlined the appointment of a “high-level liaison officer for covert operations” who would oversee two groups of covert operational procedures. First, “black propaganda” was used to aid “underground movements and promote resistance movements” during “peace time” in accordance with “NSC 4-A and in accordance with the policies derived from the liaison officer.” Secondly, a group was to become trained with a focus on “sabotage, anti-sabotage, (and) demolition” against the enemy only during war time and peace time.

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Washington’s outline for the two groups to be trained for covert, psychological warfare during both peace time and war time would translate into various mechanisms of oppression against the supporters of the left in Greece. These covert operations would become assimilated into proper Greek domestic policy with the intimate relationship of the CIA and the KYP, while the Americans infiltrated the Greek political infrastructure. National Security Council Directive document 292 (dated June 18, 1948), granted the CIA, via the National Security Council, with “conducting espionage and counter-espionage operations abroad” in accordance with Washington’s foreign policy objectives. The acceptance of these covert actions on foreign soil helped to lend credence to the belief that this Greek crisis needed immediate action to defend democracy in this new kind of war. This focus on covert intelligence gathering was considered the main weapon against the impending threat of a communist ideological takeover in Greece and the security of the Free World.

These operations (June 18, 1948) were defined by policy makers as “activities” with “minimal risk of exposure in Washington” to assure “the U.S. government can plausibly disclaim any responsibility” or knowledge of these covert operations. The ultimate goal of the CIA was the gathering of counterintelligence which would lead Washington to create a major policy directive in Greece; the establishment of a joint security program in Athens which consisted of two procedures. The first was the creation of a unified, strong Greek military which would be utilized as a means to keep Greece away from the chaos and disorder lingering from the Civil War. Second, this intelligence gathering would help with the overall development of the Greek

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national economic rehabilitation and development which in turn would be beneficial to the restoration of an embattled Western Europe as a whole. Washington believed that the security of the free world was dependent upon Greece’s survival as a democratic nation against the threat of Soviet infiltration through their communist ideology.

These bilateral agreements with Greece would serve as a supportive blueprint of sorts in future foreign policy objectives by Washington in the efforts of Soviet containment. Despite the best laid plans in Greece, Washington knew that the Greek government was far from perfect and needed direction at times due to its ineffective nature. Washington often criticized the various ruling Greek governments as displaying a lack “of cohesion and unity of purpose” despite these outcries the ruling Greek government shifted their priorities only slightly under the watchful eye of Washington and their Greek insiders during the post-occupational era.79

This section outlined how the emotion of fear played out in the Cold War dialectic according to the emergence of the Greek police state. This emotional oppression was detrimental in constructing state run terror against the Greek populace. Communism was targeted as the means to initiate these government regulations and initiatives which affected more than just the members of the KKE. These actions against the communists authorized by various special operations overseen by Washington in an attempt to protect the region which was considered vital in resources and the gateway to the Middle East. Without securing Greece, Washington feared that a lack of containment would ultimately give Moscow control over this geo-political region.

79 Mogens Pelt, *Tying Greece to the West: US-West German-Greek Relations 1949-1974* (Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum Press, 2006), 56-66. Pelt does a wonderful job describing the political methods used by Acheson, Peurifoy and Grady to manipulate the Greek political system to meet the foreign policy objectives of Washington.
The following chapters will take these governmental initiatives and decrees and explain how and why they came about into the socio-politico spectrum in Greek policies. Chapter two will look into the secondary sources discussed previously in this chapter, such as Mogens Pelt, Minas Samatas, and Howard Jones who discuss the policies and oppressive tactics utilized against the communists and those suspected of the adverse ideology. While summing up the fear that was perpetrated on the Greek populace through these oppressive means, such as the δηλωεις and how it affected Greek society as a whole. This research will question why a government considered to be a NATO ally would resort to tactics to that of a Soviet satellite state during the Cold War. The Greek police state used the apparatus of government fear in order to subdue and rid Greece of the communist ideology. This method would prove to be severe and harsh to many Greeks regardless of their political standing.
3

State Run Fear against Communism

“The war shattered the social fabric of life in Greece.”

--- Judith S. Jeffery

Few Cold War historians have covered the history of the culture of fear which took place in Greece during 1949-1974. Greek historian P.J. Vatikiotis stated that the socio-cultural product from the occupation bred:

...instability and uncertainty... (and) economic dislocation... by the disarray of a fractious multiparty system” thus creating “suspicion between the political forces of the right and left, which controlled the means of state repression on one hand, and those of the left on the other, hardened and engendered a great deal of bitterness... The American perception of the communist menace was almost Manichean. Through this method of undemocratic fear tactics, the ruling anti-communist political agenda produced a fragile, yet resistant subject forced to make decisions regarding their political beliefs and even the safety of their families. Many Cold War historians view the Greek case as a “single episode of the wider Cold War conflict, where the decisive factor, which determines internal political developments, is the international balance of power.” Cold War historian Odd Arne Westad described Greece as the beginning of the Cold War between the Empire of Justice and the Empire of Liberty based on ideological differences. Westad asserted that both sides felt an

“apocalyptic fear” that if the other side stood victorious after the Cold War.¹ The late European historian Tony Judt described the period after WWII in Europe as the battle zone for the Cold War between the United States and Soviet Union and that Europeans “experienced quite differently” socio-cultural life than that of those who lived in the United States and the Soviet Union.² This is an important fact to remember since Greece was the testing ground for this new kind of war against an ideological enemy.

³.1 Legitimacy through Political Rhetoric under the Pretense of Democracy

Many historians focus on the political top-down debate leading to the overall picture of the struggle between the opposing Cold War’s ideologies. Only a few have focused on the reaction to political fear through terror, such as Greek historian Stathis N. Kalyvas who wrote on the Red Terror (a terror campaign inflicted by the communists against those considered collaborators with the occupational Germans and Italian fascists) that was rampant during the occupation of Greece in World War II. Before we go into the methods utilized by the Greek anti-communists, I shall explain the predecessor of this systematic terror campaign in which the communists focused their efforts on those considered collaborators for the occupying Nazi forces.³

It is imperative to stress that the efforts of the left during the occupation bred animosity and anger among the Greeks who were marginalized by the leftist forces. Kalyvas in his research on the Red Terror he challenges the preset notions of the main actor in the aggression

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³ Stathis N. Kalyvas, “Red Terror: Leftist Violence during the Occupation”, in *After the War was Over: Reconstructing the Family, Nation, and State in Greece, 1943-1960*, Mark Mazower, ed. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000), 43. Kalyvas shows that the ‘Red Terror’ in Argolid was “centrally planned process, key to EAM’s and the KKE’s strategic goals”.

during this era in Greek history. He states initially that his “goal is not to contribute to a
meaningless partisan debate on comparative cruelty: it is clear that all sides resorted to terror.”

By focusing on the era known as the Red Terror, Kalyvas places this campaign in context with
the fear campaign known as the White Terror. This campaign of fear was carried out by the
persecuted Greeks of the Red Terror, as retaliation for their misery and fear conducted by the
perpetrators, the KKE.

In addition, these acts of aggression by the KKE were seen by Washington as a means of
a full fledge communist takeover after the end of German occupation. This laid the ground work
for the impending focus of foreign policy in Greece by Washington and the ruling Greek
government’s quest for the eradication of the communist ideology in Greece. Here Kalyvas
argues that “a full understanding” into the various “dynamics of violence” that occurred during
the Greek Civil War:

— can only come from a comprehensive analysis that links the uses of terror by various
political actors; the integration of single isolated events into the entire sequence to which
they belong; and the combination of man different bodies of evidence.

His research places the onset of the culture of fear in Greece and its manifestation from a
simple, but complex case of bad blood between communists and collaborators into a more
methodical, advanced system of terror tactics. These tactics were aimed at the feeling of
retribution for past misdeeds which led to the total destruction of the adverse political faction of
communism and its followers. His argument delivers a crucial point that regardless of

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4 Stathis N. Kalyvas, “Red Terror: Leftist Violence during the Occupation” in After the War was Over:
University Press, 2000), 143.
5 Stathis N. Kalyvas, “Red Terror: Leftist Violence during the Occupation” in After the War was Over:
University Press, 2000), 143.
Washington’s foreign investment to the Greek crisis, the state operated White Terror towards the communist party would have manifested itself nonetheless.

My challenge to his research is to question at what rate this fear would have been accepted by the Greek population and to the outside world without acceptance by Washington’s foreign policy. By arguing that this culture of fear was created out of the horrid memories of the Red Terror, leads my study to a valid point in Kalyvas’ research. The complicit nature of Washington’s foreign policies in Athens makes me question how successful would this communist witch hunt have been without Washington’s aid (monetary and materiel) and the personnel lent to Athens.

Kaylvas illustrates a campaign of terror by EAM that produced a sense of great fear in the Greek communities. Distrust and suspicions of one’s neighbor ran rampant from family to family within the Greek villages and towns. Kalyvas furthers his argument by stating that “successful terror is intended to achieve maximum amounts of compliance with a minimum of amount of violence. Yet, terror also produces resentment.”\(^6\) He argued this system of terror’s main “goal was to ensure civilian compliance and maximize control over the population.”\(^7\) This formula would be later used by the ruling Greek government against their enemy, the Greek communists and those suspected of the adverse ideology. This pretext for the era known as the White Terror bred many harsh memories of past indiscretions of terror unleashed upon the Greek populace. Lest we forget how Arendt’s research argues that through state terror, the state controls not only the people’s actions but also how the people react as well.

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After liberation, Greece went through a maelstrom of emotional and physical turmoil as the two sides battled over the inevitable control of Greece. Greek political scientist Minas Samatas completed a comparative study on the “post-war political repression in Greece and in the United States of America” by linking the “anticommunist crusades” to the Truman Doctrine, which are “considered democratic operations defending democracy against an international communist conspiracy.”

Greek historian Nikos Alivizatos argues that the demonstration of “American loyalty” was brought to the Greek populace through Greek legislation and directives that hid under the guise of “Greek law-abiding mindedness.” Those considered to be law-abiding by these set guidelines were issued πιστοποιητικο κοινωνικων φρονηματων “Certificate social conscience” to be carried around at all times as a sense of identity within this –“us” versus “them” dialectic of political ideologies. Instead of setting reforms and democratizing Greece, Washington’s intervention bolstered the Greek right-wing establishment, including the monarchy and the military, intensified political divisions, and set the stage for the impending military dictatorship of the Greek Junta (1967-1974).

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8 Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, *Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora*, Volume XIII, Issue 3 (Fall-Winter 1986): 5, 12. Upon communicating with Professor Samatas through various emails, he has given me permission to use these printed loyalty statements for my thesis research. Samatas states that there is little difference in the clinical nature of these documents, as they all follow the same structure. This has opened up an area which will give credence to my argument that a ‘culture of fear’ emanated from the Greek government headed in Athens. Such a ‘culture of fear’ that many Greeks succumbed to the pressures of these repressive techniques by stating their ‘loyalty’ to Greece due to suspicious and questionable socio-political activities. These examples will bring together the language used to give legitimacy to Athens via the action of ‘loyalty’ to Greece versus subversive, communist ideology.


The communist threat to Greece, internal as well as external, was egregiously exaggerated and the governmental measures taken to combat this ideology were socially counter-productive. Initially, Washington’s foremost objective in the Greek crisis was outlined as a method to create “a peaceful Greece which would not invite communist activity through social and economic disorder.” But as the Cold War progressed and evolved, Washington’s role in Greece became more and more muddled and “infinitely… complicated.” It was easy after the devastation of both the occupation and Civil War in Greece for the right-wing influence to permeate successfully throughout society. This shift was brought about by a numbness and desensitization of the Greek socio-cultural ethos at the hands of “the prevailing sense of fear, grief, and conflict” which led to “the worst hunger and deprivation” in Greece in modern times.

3.2 Greek-McCarthyism as a Means to Legitimize Oppressive Legislation

This part of chapter two will explore Greek historian Minas Samatas’s research in order to examine the political experience in this Greek culture of fear and the politics that grew from this socio-political movement. Samatas’ study on the comparative qualities of Greek and United States’ McCarthyism will help to illuminate the political approach through legitimacy of political rhetoric which was used to oppress the communist ideology in Greece. Samatas’ study into the political oppression of suspected communists in both the United States and Greece will help illustrate the pre-existing political rhetoric which was used later to formulate the new repressive policies of the ruling anti-communist Greek faction.

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In post-occupation Greece, Samatas looks closely at the role that a subject’s personal and political loyalty to Greece played out within the context of a culture of fear in Greek culture. Samatas examines the role of the Πιστοποιητικα Κοινονικον Φρονιματον/ civic-mindedness certificates and the διλωτις/loyalty statements utilized as a means of marginalization by the anti-communist government in Greece. An excerpt taken from a statement from Constantine Maniadakis, who was a trusted officer in the Greek army during the Metaxas regime, describes the process of “certification” as a non-Communist:

a chronological account of his Communist activities, with all the names of those who initiated him in the Communist ideology, an account of all party meetings he had attended, the position he occupied in the party hierarchy, and any of his non-party activities such as participation in the ‘Workers Assistance’, the Communist Youth Organization OKNE, the trade union fractions, or the army fractions.\(^\text{15}\)

During the Metaxas regime (1936-1941), “almost 45,000 such declarations” were authorized and published in an effort to combat the spread of Communism despite this number “far exceeding the actual membership” of the KKE at this time.\(^\text{16}\) This proved to be an effective method that would later be used after the occupation of Greece in order to erase the power and authority of the KKE in Greece. According to Pelt, “the legal framework established during the Civil War constituted an important element of continuity stemming from the inter-war years and especially from the Metaxas period.”\(^\text{17}\) Anti-communist legislation performed an essential role in the “coherence of the Right from the Metaxas dictatorship onwards,” while “anti-communism offered former collaborators a safe entry into state service (post-Occupation).”\(^\text{18}\)


\(^{17}\) Mogens Pelt, *Tying Greece to the West: US-West German-Greek Relations 1949-74* (Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum Press, 2006), 42.

Washington’s monetary assistance and governmental legitimacy was bestowed upon Athens under the pretense of curbing Moscow’s influence in the region. Washington officials allowed the recycling of pre-occupation, anti-communist legislation regardless of the socio-political outcome. According to Greek government reports during 1945, “over 80,000 people were prosecuted” and placed in over-crowded jails across Greece for communist related offences against the Greek government.\(^{19}\) Other Greek government reports admitted in October 1949 that since June 1, 1946, “3,150 persons had been sentenced to death for aiding or taking part in the revolt, of whom 1,233 had been executed.”\(^{20}\) Many Greeks were sent to “reindoctrination centres” such as the islands of Makronisos and Leros, in an effort to “convert Communist elements into good citizens” based on the ruling Greek governments method of “lectures and physical training” in addition to the degradation of the meager living conditions on these reindoctrination centres.\(^{21}\) These statistics place in historical context the degree of persecution and oppressive mechanisms of control used to marginalize those considered to be communists.

According to a report by the KKE, in September 1947, “19,620 political prisoners and 36,948 political exiles” were sent to these reindoctrination centres in the Greek islands.\(^{22}\) In a document from Athens to Washington dated June 1948, “12,695 political prisoners, in addition to 10,635 individuals in exile and 15,242 (were) interned at Makronisos.”\(^{23}\) By August 1949, a memorandum from the Greek government stated that there were “31,400 individuals in camps

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\(^{22}\) Phillip Cabbott and Thanasis D. Sfikas eds., “Communism and the culture of anticommunism.” *The Greek Civil War: Essays on a Conflict of Exceptionalism and Silences* (London: King’s College Centre for Hellenic Studies, 2004), 147.

and exile, and 18,000 in prison.” The abundant number of prisoners only exacerbates the degree of over-crowding allowed in these make-shift prison camps. While the validity of these numbers may be in question, it is safe to assume that regardless of the actual numbers of political prisoners and exiles was extremely high in accordance to the actual members of the KKE. These numbers set to show the massive influx of those suspected and known Greek communists after the occupation. Regardless of the actual numbers, these camps operated for one reason: the sterilization of the Greek communist into a model Greek citizen according to the Greek government.

Greek historian Polymeris Voglis argued that “the formation of the subject and its identity is a process” which may start for many while imprisoned on these islands. The persecuted Greek subject is forced to identify himself as a political prisoner, these Greeks felt betrayed by their own government again as they were branded “criminals” in an effort to obscure the real reason of differing ideological beliefs being the main factor. Voglis argues that through shared experiences from the past occupation and the Civil War, many Greek political prisoners formed an identity through the “constructed… shared, glorious and undisputed past… exemplified by posters of EAM on the walls, and the experience of persecution after liberation… shaped their identity.” Voglis argued that within the context of the Greek Civil War, Greece

25 Phillip Carabott and Thanasis D. Sfikas eds., The Greek Civil War: Essays on a Conflict of Exceptionalism and Silences (London: King’s College Centre for Hellenic Studies, 2004), 142-143.
26 Phillip Carabott and Thanasis D. Sfikas eds., The Greek Civil War: Essays on a Conflict of Exceptionalism and Silences (London: King’s College Centre for Hellenic Studies, 2004), 146.
27 Phillip Carabott and Thanasis D. Sfikas eds., The Greek Civil War: Essays on a Conflict of Exceptionalism and Silences (London: King’s College Centre for Hellenic Studies, 2004), 146.
was “divided between nationally-minded citizens and bandits, there was little room left in-between” for any other description to signify the Greek populace.\textsuperscript{28}

Voglis also argues that the “…success of this process of cultural transformation” was contingent upon the duration of time spent in the reindoctrination centres and the specific “conditions”, thus, the “prison experience was a transit experience, while for others it left indelible marks.”\textsuperscript{29} Marginalized communists dealt with mental and physical abuse by their captors in order to rehabilitate them into becoming what anti-communists believed to be as an ideal Greek citizen. On the other side of the spectrum, the Greek “right-wing rhetoric was based on specific political aims and did not primarily seek to construct and project an individual political and cultural identity” like their opponents.\textsuperscript{30} To the ruling Greek right, “nationalism and anticommunism went hand in hand” in regards to their ultimate goal of ridding Greece of any communist influence and ruling Greece.\textsuperscript{31} This method of hindering a complete communist takeover wrapped in the guise of ideological differences would ultimately divide Greece for many years to come. Brother against brother, divided through the adherence of ideological differences, ripped the very social fabric of Greece in half.

### 3.3 The Emergence of Preventive Law

Samatas argues that the importance of the economic rehabilitation mission in Greece was imperative to the overall outcome of the Cold War and the future of the European economy.

\textsuperscript{28} Phillip Cabbott and Thanasis D. Sfikas eds., “Communism and the culture of anticommunism.” The Greek Civil War: Essays on a Conflict of Exceptionalism and Silences (London: King’s College Centre for Hellenic Studies, 2004), 153.
\textsuperscript{29} Phillip Cabbott and Thanasis D. Sfikas eds., “Communism and the culture of anticommunism.” The Greek Civil War: Essays on a Conflict of Exceptionalism and Silences (London: King’s College Centre for Hellenic Studies, 2004), 155.
Failure was not an option to Washington’s policy-makers regarding this issue. To provide the best possible means for success in Greece, Washington chose to project “the image of a great, united national struggle against the heinous Greek communists” in order to foster participation and support, not just within Greece but worldwide.32 By doing so, this helped cultivate the culture of fear in Greece by giving the legitimacy to marginalize the KKE and its followers through these oppressive policies enacted by the anti-communists. In addition, this created a rigid dichotomy within the socio-political sphere between anticommunists (them) and communists (us).

Samatas argues that the anti-communist crusade was enforced through specific “special paraconstitutional legislation” that focused on scrutinizing the “individual’s life” for any signs of “wrong-thinking that might result in future wrong-doing.”33 This illustrates how the Greek populace feared the possibility of becoming a dissident to the Greek government not by their actions, but by what they could “potentially” achieve as communists.34 The Greek government turned to their newly developed technique of marginalization through a process called “preventive law” as a method to utilize the paraconstitutional legislation in place by ignoring the “civil liberties” of many Greeks accused of being a communist.35 Samatas argues that this is a method used by Washington during the McCarthy era but dates back to the seventeenth century.

“The establishment of this thought-crime, guilt by association, and collective responsibility by

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U.S. and Greek anticommunist states is reminiscent of the heresy-hunts and other ideological warfare methods of the seventeenth century. This learned behavior of retribution was not only accepted by Washington, but was considered to be major foreign policy advancement to fulfill the order to protect democracy in Greece.

The adoption of Washington’s model against communism was no coincidence by any means. Failure by Washington in post-occupation Greece was not an option with the looming menace of the Soviet Union growing more dangerous by the day. Washington hoped to win a “victory against the Soviet Union and its allies” resulting in the restriction of the “conspiratorial efforts to subvert and incorporate” Greece into a communist state and the establishment of “an obedient Greek anticommunist state… ensuring U.S. strategic interests.” The purging of the Greek civil service by the American Mission for Aid to Greece (AMAG) after the Truman Doctrine was a direct result in adopting “U.S. ideological warfare technology and indoctrination techniques” and a restructured Greek “security apparatus” much like its predecessor in Washington in an effort to combat the communist ideological menace. Samatas argues that three measures taken by Washington’s policy makers mirrored future Greek paraconstitutional legislation enacted against the threat of communism.

Samatas contends that the Greek model of the United State’s Hatch Act of August 2, 1939, was translated into the Greek emergency laws 512 (1948), 516 (1948) and law 1540 (1950). Samatas argues that these laws “restated almost verbatim” Washington’s prevention of

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“pernicious political activities” and the illegalization of “a party or organization which supported the overthrow of the U.S. constitutional political system.” In agreement with the Hatch Act and the Smith Act, the *U.S. Civil Service Circular 222 (June 20, 1940)* outlawed the “participation in or affiliation” with any communist, Nazi or fascist political parties or organizations. Also, Samatas lists the *Loyalty Order of March 21, 1947 (Executive Order 9835)* issued by President Truman, which prompted “over three million loyalty investigations by the both the House Un-American Activities Committee and Civil Service loyalty boards.” Samatas argues that these U.S. laws were incorporated into the Greek legislation and governmental initiatives which “introduced the fundamental concepts of loyalty (*νομμοφροσυνη*) and disloyalty” by legitimizing “a repressive apparatus which judged an employee’s current loyalty on the basis of his previous associations, activities, and beliefs.” These laws helped place the Greek citizen into two categories; loyal to the state or an enemy of the state.

Previous Greek legislation from the *Metaxas* regime (*Espionage Law 375 and Law 4229*) played an important part in this attempt to squash the communist ideology as it was recreated with the introduction of *Greek Law 1612 (December 31, 1950)*. This was the final piece of legislation which would give the Greek government the ultimate control over suspected

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communists. Greek historian Jon V. Kofas argued that Washington’s willingness to “foster a culture of militarism” in Greece helped to create a mirror image of the Central Intelligence Agency (C.I.A.) in Greece, thus, creating a clear path for Washington to intervene in Greek politics under the guise of prominent Greek legislation and governmental initiatives.

The Greek domestic security apparatus, Εθνική Υπηρεσία Πληροφοριών/KYP, did participate in a massive full-scale “wiretapping and mail opening” of suspected communists across Greece. The KYP would act as the agent of fear to those under the watchful eye of the Greek government during this oppressive era. Their covert operations would instill the emotion of fear within the Greek population as their actions forced many Greeks to look over their shoulder before saying or doing anything which may seem as a communist influenced act. The Greek citizen feared being spied on by not only the KYP, but informers disguised as their neighbors as well.

Samatas ends his discussion of the similarities of the two domestic security apparatuses by stating, “the value of propaganda as a weapon of war and politics should need no argument.” Law 4229 (July 25, 1929), which was better known as the idionymo law, criminalized the communist ideology without banning the political party itself. This was the

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43 Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora, Volume XIII, Issue 3 (Fall-Winter 1986): 20. This would be the implementation of psychological warfare used for repression of the communists in hopes of a singular, mass conformity through the utilization of “civic-mindedness certificates, repentance statements, and loyalty oaths which required denials not only of one’s past but also of the activities, beliefs and associations of one’s relatives”. The Greek security agency KYP (modeled on and named after the CIA) was established. KYP was the coordinator of the anticommunist, antisubversion program, and became the official agency fighting the “internal enemy”.  
institution of the “thought crime” into the Greek domestic security mechanisms aimed at the oppression of the communist ideology by “legalizing state anticommutnist terrorism from that time forward.” In December 1947, Greek Law 509 was put into effect criminalizing the communist party in the Greek political spheres and thus banning the party from any and all political activity in Greece. The outlawing of communism as an ideological enemy became germane to the safety of Greece as a democracy under the auspices of the Cold War.

Although Greek law 509 was later replaced with a newer version which “extended its definition of seditious activity” through the marginalization of the Greek communists, the close surveillance of Greek communists remained a top priority. Samatas describes other forms of the Greek domestic security mechanisms which would form this Greek culture of fear:

1. the “systematic surveillance of all citizens”
2. the use of the civic-mindedness certificates/Πιστοπουλτικα Κοινονικον Φρονεματων “based on their surveillance records”
3. the use of the so-called repentance statements/δνλωσεις “required of all political prisoners, or of anyone wishing to be cleared of a communist stigma”
4. mass deportations for the “reconversion” of suspected and known Greek communists with the use of “physical and psychological terror”
5. and the establishment of a “militarized” zone against the threat of the “internal enemies” with the use of “physical and psychological repression.”

Dividing the Greek society into nationalists and communists became the foundation of establishing a legal framework of prosecuting communists within a right-wing conservative socio-political spectrum in the elections of March 1946. These measures against communism in Greece led to a division in loyalties within the Greek socio-political sphere, thus resulting in the

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subsequent rankings of Greek citizenship outline by Samatas as being either Εθνικοφρονες-loyal to Greece or Μιασμα- those considered to be disloyal or suspected of communist associations.

The institution of the Πιστοποιητικα ΚοινονικοΦρονεματον (civic-mindedness certificates) gave way to the bureaucratic side of this ideological disagreement as it focused mainly on the “paper world” of the specific Greek citizen more than the actual “citizen himself.” These documents show the extreme depths used in order for the Greek security apparatus to keep a watchful eye on suspected dissidents in Greece. By using these certificates as a form of oppressive state control, the Greek government controlled all aspects of social life for the Greek populace.

“Like all totalitarian and police states”, Greece kept extensive files on every “individual citizen” under their political affiliation and activities by intruding into their “private lives” and the “inherent power of the Greek state to blackmail its citizens accordingly.” As discussed in chapter one, Greece had become a source of police informers to the state apparatus with “60,000” Greeks on secret payrolls in 1962, thus creating a “parasitic, insecure class of rentiers who lived off state subsidies and revenues, dependent on the state for protection and support.” This would ultimately cause a sea of distrust in the Greek populace, which subsequently led to the culture of fear in Greece due to the state apparatus utilizing their state informers as a mechanism of control and oppression.

Those who were suspected of communism but refused to sign a repentance statement were forced to undergo a process called Αποχροματισμος. This was a “political decolorization or

de-stigmatization procedure… required of all reconverted ex-communists” in order to be
considered safe for repopulation back into Greece. Samatas describes the term decolorization
as being:

   based on the fact that police used to underline with a red pen all critical personal data—
   true or false, it’s irrelevant—in the files of the citizens and their relatives) who had been
   stigmatized as communist, leftist, sympathizer, or crypto.

Samatas argues that these techniques illustrate the basic formula used by Greece and its
benefactor, Washington in the instrumentation of Greek McCarthyism. The validation of Greek-
McCarthyism “became a defensive weapon for the consolidation and reinforcement of an
anticommmunist state” within Greece as a necessary policy for the punishment and the politico-
economic exclusion of the vanquished Greek left.” The key point to take from Samatas’
argument into Greek McCarthyism is that, despite being a carbon copy of Washington’s
McCarthy era politics, “Greek McCarthyism was far more repressive and violent” than the U.S.
version. This statement by Samatas intrigued me to focus on this subject of Greek-
McCarthyism due to the extreme nature that was made in Greece to thwart any Soviet
advancement or interference in the region.

   The acceptance and legitimization given to Greece intrigued me to look further as to why
this was accepted in what was called a democratic nation. Samatas does admit that despite the
efforts of Greek-McCarthyism, the Greek left survived through the means of “new political

53 Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive
Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora, Volume XIII,
Issue 3 (Fall-Winter 1986): 32.
54 Minas Samatas. Surveillance in Greece: From Anticommunist to Consumer Surveillance. (New York: Pella
55 Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive
Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora, Volume XIII,
56 Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive
Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora, Volume XIII,
Issue 3 (Fall-Winter 1986): 38.
forces” and, in fact, “remnants of many repressive controls and discrimination against the left strengthened the opposition leftist forces” in Greece.\(^{57}\) This anticommunist crusade did more than just target the adverse ideology of communism as anti-Greek, but it assisted in the formation and division of “first- and second- class Greek citizens,” and “it perpetuated the traditional mistrust and cleavage between a state and its citizenry” of Greece.\(^{58}\) This socio-political schism would reverberate until the late 1970’s when Greece would become frustrated at the hands of the ruling Greek Colonel’s Junta.

European historian Mogens Pelt produced an astounding study into the international relations between the United States, Greece and West Germany (1949-1974) in hopes to illustrate how Greece was attached to the West through diplomatic and economic-political relations. This study addresses the issue of burden-sharing and how it relates to “Washington’s demands on its European allies to shoulder a larger share of the expenditures related to a common defence (sic) against” Moscow.\(^{59}\) This issue of burden sharing explains how Washington would allow such actions in Greece to aid the quest for the marginalization of communism. Pelt describes burden-sharing as the process of relinquishing their role as Greece’s benefactor and transferring the responsibility to the West Germans.

According to Pelt, “after the Civil War and in the wake of the Korean War,” Washington “decided” no more foreign aid was to be sent to Athens in hopes to “support the long-term


economic development of Greece.” This decision came with the political fervor, that through West Germany’s growth and survival, “American interests” would be served best in the area. Through a policy of deferment towards Communist policies, Washington hoped to maintain Greece as a geopolitical location in regards to the Middle East—and keeping all Soviet influence away from the region. By initializing this foreign policy in Greece through the creation of the Truman Doctrine, the impetus for the Cold War had begun and “marks the point at which American leadership began to link the divergences between East and West ideology and not to Russian imperialism.”

Washington believed the overall threat “perceived” from Moscow in the region came from the “instability” of the area’s “economic, social, and political” woes which could lead Greece to succumb and accept aid from the Communists or Soviet Bloc countries. In order to maintain Greece’s freedom from Moscow’s influence, Washington wanted a “strong, moderate government” to maintain stability and economic rehabilitation through US funds. With the Korean War emerging in the wake of the Cold War, Washington shifted its direction to a “right-wing rule” to govern Greece and keep her free of Soviet pressure. Pelt argues a similar thesis from fellow Greek historian Howard Jones, Greece served as a blueprint in the “rollback” of any

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60 Mogens Pelt, Tying Greece to the West: US-West German-Greek Relations 1949-74 (Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum Press, 2006), 89.
61 Mogens Pelt, Tying Greece to the West: US-West German-Greek Relations 1949-74 (Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum Press, 2006), 26. In the Introduction, Pelt contends that through the “maxim” believed in Washington that “revive Germany - revive Europe” was maintained the vested interests in the area would be seen through and the issue of ‘burden sharing’ would be resolved. Through the success in a revitalized West Germany, Greece could now look upon a new benefactor in search of the necessary funds to help revitalize her own socio-economic issues after post-occupation.
64 Mogens Pelt, Tying Greece to the West: US-West German-Greek Relations 1949-74 (Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum Press, 2006), 355.
suspected or known Communist advance within the region or the Middle East. This was a new frontier for Washington as it tried effortlessly to keep Greece democratic by any means necessary. New policies and adaptation to this Cold War led Washington to establish Greece as the testing grounds to battle the communist ideology.

### 3.4 Refocusing the Role of Greece in the Cold War Context

The importance of Greece during the Cold War is argued by many historians, but the importance in the Cold War narrative is often straight-laced, painting Greece as the landing zone for the Cold War animosity. But if we re-examine Greece in the context of their Cold War policies, Greece may seem similar to the narrative of many Iron Curtain countries. This re-examination of historical context can make clear how post-Civil War Greece developed as a democratic nation yet a nation with many sobering secrets. The breadth of Cold War historiography leans towards mentioning Greece as important during the Truman era but wanes as future administrations focused on the Middle East and their geopolitical importance in the region during the Cold War. Some Modern Greek historians’ focus their research on the debate concerning the validity of terror and fear which emanated from the ruling Greek government’s directives and policies from a top-down approach.

Much of the recent scholarship delving into the past of Greece focuses on diplomatic relations, economic stagnation, foreign intervention by the United States or Great Britain, and internal strife relating to the anticommunist movement in Greece. The willful acceptance of Washington concerning Greece’s turn towards a right-wing rule over its populace gave way to a rampant wave of anti-communism linked to many governmental decrees and legislation aimed at

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the overall destruction of anything dealing with the communist ideology. By the early part of the 1960s, economic aid to Athens had been terminated by Washington as a result of Washington’s “commitments world-wide and the fact that the… economy was under an increasing strain.”

This shift in foreign policy by Washington gave way to their plan of burden sharing for West Germany to accept the role of Greece’s benefactor.

By re-examining the issue in Greece, I wish to challenge the preconceived notion that Greece and the United States entered into this diplomatic arrangement with only the intentions of containing communism. The scope of my research into this subject will concentrate on how the role of political fear in Greek society, through government legislation and political rhetoric, played out in the larger Cold War dialogue between the anti-communist Greek government and the surviving communists in Greece. This re-contextualizing of the Greek crisis and the Cold War will hopefully bring more awareness to the early dawn of this ideological war against communism. Washington’s complicit nature regarding the diplomatic relations with the ruling, ineffective right-wing Greek influenced leadership, and a form of legitimacy that granted credence to this repressive nature of political rhetoric directed at the destruction of the Communist party. In other words, it was accepted to fight fear with fear through the means of marginalization of those suspected or considered to be communist across the globe.

Through this method of undemocratic fear tactics, the ruling anti-communist political agenda produced a fragile, yet resistant subject forced to make decisions regarding their political beliefs and the safety of their families. Instead a focus needs to be on the “ideological and political

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origins” of the Cold War outside Washington and Moscow. By examining the shifting ideology of Washington’s initial focus of rehabilitation onto the ideology of the “colonial experience”, the act of neo-colonialism and marginalizing the Greek left was achieved by political rhetoric aimed against those who held the communist ideology steadfast.

Many Cold War historians describe this moment when the United States began to mix its foreign policy with interventionist policies and directives aimed at keeping a neo-colonial approach to how their aid was distributed throughout the receiving country’s budget and economic rehabilitation. Historian Amikam Nachmani argues that the Greek Civil War was a method for the two Super Powers to “tie up the loose ends of their spoils-of-war agreements” post World War II with the “monarcho-fascists and bandits” of Greece fighting this proxy war, which he considers “one the greatest” of the twentieth century civil wars. Nachmani also contends that the Civil War “ended” as a result of an American neo-colonialization of Greece’s political infrastructure and without this intervention, the Civil War “might have been shorter, its casualties fewer, and its outcome different.”

Greek politicians would prove to be most ambitious, and at times very opportunistic as well as those in Washington, with the Greek government’s endorsement of cruel tactics and harsh techniques of torture resulting in the decimation of the communists. The banning of all political rhetoric and operations of the KKE as a political party, as well as any communist ideology, was seen as part of the White Terror campaign in Greece. United States transnational historian

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Howard Jones, author of *A New Kind of War: America’s Global Strategy and the Truman Doctrine in Greece*, looks into the overall process that Washington formulated in order to combat the threat of communism in Europe and how this affects the safety of the free world.

By adhering to the belief of the Soviet Union’s imminent expansion into the Mediterranean, Washington utilized this as a focal point to the crisis in Greece and its “global importance” to the Cold War narrative.\(^72\) The use of Jones’ study will show how the Greek cause was justified in Washington by stating that the Greek people “wanted American help.”\(^73\) As a consequence of this request, a new kind of war was developed during peacetime in Europe which created a new global strategy for future foreign policy objectives by Washington. According to Jones, through the rationalization of a culture of fear, Washington helped to develop this modernist ideological war against communism to combat such a “complex situation” in Greece.\(^74\)

The communist ideology would be handled in a manner that could be considered delicate in regards to the diplomatic situation between Washington and Athens in a global scope.\(^75\) These policies established a method of control over the Greek governmental infrastructure; Washington realized the importance of keeping Greece a democracy amidst the fear of Moscow’s slowly placing its influence into democratic Greece. As a point to the free world, Washington decided that democracy would champion this war against the communist intrusion with new tactics and a total revamping of the Greek bureaucratic system. In doing so, the influence of the Washington insiders into the Greek political sphere held a heavy hand in the creation of many governmental

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Greek agencies and policies. These policies would develop into the oppressive forms of marginalizing the communists, as discussed by Samatas, within the Greek society.

Jones’ research gives credence to the numerous government documents and memoirs which state that new covert, psychological operations during peacetime would be implemented in the struggle to maintain a free, democratic Greece. In addition, Jones’ research will assist the narrative by putting into context the difficulty of the situation in Greece to Washington. This heroic effort undertaken under the name of freedom was used to marginalize those who were supposed to be protected under a true, democratic institution. Jones is detrimental to understanding how this moment in history should be viewed as a major area of diplomatic change in Washington’s “global strategy”, plus as a crucial period for “safeguarding America’s security and prestige” in the eyes of Washington against the evils of Moscow.76

Jones goes great lengths to expose Washington’s deliberate intentions in Greece by illustrating their interference/intervention in order to establish a rejuvenated Greek economy and legitimizing a heavily right-wing influenced military dominated society. The success of Greece was viewed as being “peripheral” to the danger of combating communism in post-war Europe by Washington’s policy-makers.77 Both sides view this as the best route to solve the peril in post-occupied Greece and the aftermath of the Civil War which demolished Greece’s infrastructure. Washington’s aim was influenced heavily by social propaganda in the form of romanticist prose which helped to influence the cry for action in the devastated war torn Greece. American historian John Gunther wrote:

Let nobody write about Greece lightly. Here is one of the most tragic and painful situations in the world. What is going on in Greece today is real war, though the fighting is desultory and the casualties comparatively light – what is worse, civil war, the most ravaging of all kinds of war. Moreover this is not merely a Greek war but an American war; it is the Americans who make it possible to fight it. Athens is almost like an Anglo-American (mostly American) armed citadel, and neither the Greek army nor government could survive then days without aid – concrete military aid – from the United States. Not one American citizen in a thousand has any conception of the extent of the American commitment in Greece, the immensity of the American contribution, and the stubborn and perhaps insoluble dilemma into which we – the United States – have plunged ourselves.⁷⁸

Gunther speaks of Athens as being a Anglo-American armed citadel which is solely supported with the aid from Washington in order to serve as a proxy army for the United States. This is the same argument that Westad gives when he states that the Cold War was not fought on either Washington or Moscow’s soil, but on the soil of other nations which served as surrogates for this embattled Cold War. This excerpt was taken from Gunther’s research completed after World War II and still many historians continued to focus on the Cold War as a merely an ideological battle between the two super powers. The real soldiers of the Cold War were the occupants of regional geopolitical areas which the Super Powers aspired to place their neo-colonial influence into in order keep the other power at bay. Gunther acknowledges that many American citizens do not have any indication of the full extent of influence which Washington has instilled into Greece during this era. Those that are aware see it merely as a means to thwart a communist takeover through the Cold War dialectic. But Gunther tells the reader to understand that all actions in Greece carry consequences and that these consequences carry a profound price. This price would eventually be fully understood when the stories of the παρακρατος became more prevalent in the American media.

“Postwar circumstances” compelled the Truman administration to expound a broader sense in their definition of vested, geopolitical strategic interests.\(^7\) This would help place the need for Washington’s foreign aid (economic, military and social) in Greece regardless of its consequences. This Greek crisis was dire in scope and needed a fully fledged plan of direct action by Washington in order to revive the democratic institution in Athens. It was a firm belief within the Truman administration that the “failure to defend Greece… would demoralize other nations and force them to either to accept communism or to buy peace by making concessions to totalitarianism.”\(^8\) Jones states that this Greek crisis was viewed by the Truman administration as “an unpromising place to make a stand” for the security of all democratic nations across the globe.\(^9\)

The assumption that the Greek people “were resilient and, for the most part, not attracted by communist ideology… (and) Most important, they \textit{wanted} American help” aided Washington to develop this formidable policy.\(^10\) This policy “would be flexible enough to handle all contingencies and yet be sufficiently restrained to prevent local conflict from erupting into full scale war… The civil war in Greece provided the first battle field for this new kind of war.”\(^11\) Jones contends as the Cold War continued to become more and more prevalent in daily political

discussions, the need for “democratic methods” became less and less accepted in order to evolve with the “variables essential to victory” against the communist menace.\textsuperscript{84} 

Jones contends that the after-math of the Greek Civil War led to a deep-rooted animosity from the “vendetta-like character of the conflict resulted in atrocities by both sides that assured (the) lasting bitterness.”\textsuperscript{85} This link between the emotions of retribution harkens back to Kalyvas’ research of terror inflicted upon the aggressor by the victim. The dangers of this new kind of war was reflected in Washington’s assumption that much of the blame within the Greek crisis could be linked to the “longstanding Balkan problems” which “injected further complexities into the Greek situation” with no clear path to a solution.\textsuperscript{86} Jones concludes that the overall outcome was beneficial for both the governments in Athens and Washington. Jones argues that the experienced gained in Greece would “provide a glimmer of policy that would become known… as nation building” which would trickle down to the rest of postwar Europe.\textsuperscript{87} This study helps show the extent of methods and doctrines in Greece which became precedents for Washington’s future foreign intervention in the Vietnam conflict (via his thesis for the United State’s blue print for the Cold War).

This new direction in combating communism would help to develop the intimate relation between the C.I.A. and the emerging Greek agency the K.Y.P. in order to wage war against the left with covert operations. The C.I.A saw the broader picture when it was concerned with the Greek crisis. A communist victory in Greece would cause “international panic” and a “greater

\textsuperscript{84} Howard Jones, \textit{A New Kind of War: America’s Global Strategy and the Truman Doctrine in Greece} (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989), 37.
risk of collision” with the Soviets by exerting pressure on Washington to extend more foreign aid to countries in trouble.\textsuperscript{88} The Office of Naval Intelligence concluded that the fall of Greece would be an “example of the futility” of Washington’s foreign policy and would have “major impact on the political direction of Europe and the Near East.”\textsuperscript{89} This new kind of war in Greece helped develop both internal and external policies for both Washington and Athens alike.

By using such historians as Samatas, Jones, Kalyvas, and Pelt to revise our understanding of Greece within the Cold War, this thesis has argued for historians to refocus their research of Greece and their stark similarities to those of Soviet bloc countries. The Greek παρακρατος treated its populace to state run fear in order to rid the country of the communist menace. This revision of Cold War research brings the role of Greece into the forefront of how Washington dealt with Moscow without using such means that would incite a global conflict. Instead, Washington developed a new kind of war against this ideological enemy called communism. The use of political rhetoric as a means to define nationalists and non-nationalists alike within the Greek political sphere gave way for a complete right-wing takeover of the nation of Greece. With the assistance of Washington, new laws were renamed and instituted in an effort to curb the threat of a communist takeover in Greece.

This chapter illustrated what these laws defined and how they affected Greek society if you were considered an enemy of the state. The following chapter will now explore the means of validation and how the Greek government handled this ideological conflict in Greece. By using primary sources from both Greece and the United States, chapter three will give the reader a road map to the validity acquired by the Greek government by Washington in an effort to quell

\textsuperscript{88} Howard Jones, \textit{A New Kind of War: America’s Global Strategy and the Truman Doctrine in Greece} (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989), 130.
\textsuperscript{89} Howard Jones, \textit{A New Kind of War: America’s Global Strategy and the Truman Doctrine in Greece} (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989), 130.
this ideological conflict by any means necessary. Chapter three will discuss such topics as the diplomatic correspondence between Greek officials to Washington officials pleading for monetary and materiel assistance. The institution of the C.I.A.’s covert operations in Greece as a means to battle this adverse ideology during peacetime in Europe will help exemplify the argument that both the Greek and United States governments viewed this ideological conflict as a means to institute new methods in battling the communist influence in the region.

Furthermore, chapter three will help place the role of Washington’s influence in the proper context which guided the Greek government to take a common authoritative stance against suspected communists in Greece despite the implications of numerous human rights abuses. These systematic adaptations to Greek policies through Washington’s influence prove that they acted from this point forward in a complicit nature regarding the direction of the oppressive police state in Greece. Through the emotion of fear, Greek politics stressed loyalty to the country first and foremost without any allusion to ideologies outside the accepted norm of anticommunism. Chapter three will go further into the role these centers to illustrate how they were seen in the context of the Cold War and the crusade to keep Greece democratic.
Greece under Fire: The Dangers of a Communist Takeover

Washington knew that the gateway to the Middle East and its geopolitical global importance was at stake in post World War II Greece. With prior knowledge that British aid was depleting quickly for Greece, Washington knew it had to act swiftly in order to protect its geopolitical interests. To secure the Mediterranean region, Washington needed to take action to acquire the Greek people’s allegiance to the Western powers at the onset of the impending Cold War. In order to do so, Washington had to sway public opinion that the Greek crisis was indeed a vital issue that all free peoples must undertake to protect this region from the Soviets and the communist ideology. Print media and editorials would help validate newly formed government initiatives to be utilized to aid Washington in its effort to promote democracy in Greece. To promote these ideals of an impending crisis in Greece, the current political climate had to be re-imagined by placing EAM as an enemy of the state to the world, as well as to Greece. Panos Morphopoulos, a prominent right Greek activist, in an editorial of the *New Republic* (1944) warned of an imminent threat of Greek communists seizing power and establishing a dictatorship. Morphopoulos stated that after they had “started a national resistance movement” while “under this guise” would possibly gain “the confidence and support” of the Greek people.\(^1\) This would lead to the ultimate control of the Greek government by the communist party with little chance of a democratic recovery.

President Truman warned that action must be taken in Greece immediately before “the familiar Communist pattern of planned chaos – ruin or rule” is enacted in its “most vicious form”

in the region.\textsuperscript{2} Truman understood that without swift and decisive action by Washington, Greece would succumb to the temptation of aid and support from the neighboring Soviets. If the Soviet plan became reality, Truman felt the entire region would then fall victim to the Empire of Justice. Truman would further add that the only way to make the mission in Greece successful was to have “internal security” without the threat of communist influence.\textsuperscript{3} This call for internal security would give acceptance for Washington administrators in the Athens government and eventually clandestine operations to safeguard Greece from any and all communist activity.

This crisis in Greece was exacerbated with such articles like Dana Adams Schmidt’s “General Decline is seen in Greece” which appeared in the \textit{New York Times}. Schmidt stated that the state of affairs in Greece was “deteriorating” and that the Greek “people are frightened” with the looming threat of the communist influence.\textsuperscript{4} A failing Greek economy, empty shelves in Greek supermarkets, and the loss of the Greek import/export market only made the communist crisis seem more realistic to the Western media. Schmidt would further add that without the assistance by Washington, “matters would probably be worse than they are” in Greece, thus, granting the communist influence easier access to important roles within the government.\textsuperscript{5} These kinds of reports concerning the peril in Greece helped solidify the urgent need for Washington to act quickly and justly.

In a memorandum sent from the Greek government dated May 22, 1947 (three months after the abrupt announcement by the British that they would be pulling out of Greece), the “hearts of the Greek people” had been “profoundly touched” by the initiative undertaken by

\begin{footnotesize}
\textsuperscript{5} Dana Adams Schmidt, “General Decline is Seen in Greece”, \textit{New York Times}, November 12, 1947.
\end{footnotesize}
Washington in lieu of this Greek crisis. 6 This memo gave “assurances” to Washington that “any assistance… will be used in conformance” as dictated by Washington officials according to the rhetoric of the Truman Doctrine. 7 This “great and continuous effort” by the Greek government to “lead its people in an effort to achieve” the goals set by Washington gave a sense of legitimacy to the preset notions of the dangers of the communist ideology. 8 Consequently, after the declaration of the Truman Doctrine, the Greek government declared that both Washington and Athens should “enter into a formal agreement” on how to deal with communism. 9

During a visit with President Truman, the newly appointed Greek ambassador Vassili Dendramis told President Truman that his intentions were to “pay tribute to the generous thought” that had initiated from the Truman Doctrine for the Greek people. 10 Ambassador Dendramis would continue further to affirm that the Greek government in Athens would “cooperate most cordially” with Washington’s mission with a “high conception of solidarity.”11 This expression of gratitude was seen by Washington as a means to continue its efforts in Greece despite the Greek government’s inability to bring order without subjecting the Greek populace to what would amount to a communist witch hunt.

This effort would signify the legitimacy awarded by Washington to Athens in an effort to quell the communist influence, while it also granted the government in Athens the mobility to deal with this issue without provocation. This would ultimately spell disaster for the remaining Greek communists in the region. Later it would be apparent that the mission in Greece would be best summed up as a “kill Communists crusade” with the increased military presence in Greece to demonstrate that Washington “meant business in Greece.”

This chapter will draw upon many primary sources including numerous Greek and American documents that outline the importance of Greece geopolitically to the global need for democracy. The documents detail the Greek prime minister’s calling upon the assistance of the United States government and the emergence of covert operations during peacetime in an effort to impede the communist influence (many FRUS documents will includes the implementation of psychological warfare and torture tactics).

These documents will help contextualize the argument that these government proclamations and initiatives became a common authoritative stance against suspected communists in Greece despite the implications of numerous human rights abuses. These systematic adaptations to Greek policies through Washington’s influence prove that they acted from this point forward in a complicit nature regarding the direction of the oppressive παρακρατος in Greece. The importance of Greece as an ally in a dawning Cold War took precedent in the region, thus allowing Athens to become a παρακρατος despite being a democratic nation on paper. This study into the political mechanisms of control will help bring to light what role Greece played in the early onset of the Cold War. Despite being overlooked by

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many Cold War historians, the Greek crisis would initiate Washington’s foreign policy to evolve into finding a more modern method in dealing with this new kind of war.

Through the emotion of fear, Greek politics stressed loyalty to the country first and foremost without any allusion to ideologies outside the accepted norm of democracy and anticommunism. Greece became embattled against communism through the reissuing of past legislation; such as the use of loyalty statements called δηλωείς, the use of civic-mindedness certificates, and the function of re-education camps to rehabilitate the Greek people from adhering to adverse leftist ideology. The following chapter will discuss the role of these mechanisms of political control instilled by the various ruling parties of Greece. The role of loyalty became a vital part for the citizens of Greece in regards to their existence as productive members of Greek society. With the passing of Greek Law 1612 (December 31, 1950), suspected communists, spies and other members of the KKE were tried by martial courts (many resulting in the death penalty for treason). Although this law “reactivated the Metaxas Espionage Law 375 (1936)”, this was clearly influenced with the admission of Washington’s influence into Greek politics which also covered the “Greek security apparatus.”\footnote{Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, \textit{Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora}, Volume XIII, Issue 3 (Fall-Winter 1986): 20} The KYP was responsible for the coordination “of the anticommunist, anti-subversion program, and became the official agency fighting the ‘internal enemy’ within the Greek socio-political arena.”\footnote{Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, \textit{Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora}, Volume XIII, Issue 3 (Fall-Winter 1986): 20.} Through these policies and directives, this chapter will discuss the role of loyalty to the state versus political fear through measures such as the daily importance of the civic-mindedness certificates and the act of the δηλωείς to the Greek populace. The use of Minas Samatas’
research will help bring together the role of the emotion of fear into the daily lives of many Greeks during the era of anticommunism. The use of these published forms will document the clinical method used by the ruling Greek government to sanitize these policies by making the subject vilified through accusations of disloyalty to the state. This threatened not only the subject accused, but members of their family and closest acquaintances with the threat of political fear, deportation or even death. The accused persons were now stripped of their individuality by the state either to place them back within the accepted, loyal Greek community or to place them in a category as an enemy of the state punishable by treason, which could result in their death.

Various United States newspaper reports also detailed the common occurrences of human rights abuses in these camps by illustrating the numerous calls for help by the Greek people to the United States. But the neglect of Washington to act upon these reports also leads back to the argument that the complicit nature of Washington’s diplomacy helped create and give legitimacy to whatever Greek government was in power. This legitimacy by Washington gave credence to the role of oppression in Greece to those suspected of being a communist. It seemed in order to fight the fear of communism in the region; the use of state run fear under the παρακρατος would address this issue of keeping communism out of Greece. In addition, this legitimacy gave Greece the authority to use any means necessary to address the communist issue in their country. As a mission of success, the method used in Greece would serve as future foreign policy objectives elsewhere during the remainder of the Cold War.
The Institution of a New Kind of War against an Ideological Adversary

Washington’s vested interests in the Mediterranean region lay between the Mediterranean and Aegean seas as the gateway to the Middle East. Greece would be the initial test subject in what Washington would later outline through numerous directives as the beginning of covert operations during peacetime. Many other documents outline Washington’s urgent need for action within the Greek political scene. Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter, who was the first director of the Central Intelligence Agency (C.I.A) (May 1, 1947 to October 7, 1950) which was created from the National Security Act of 1947, was responsible for the focus on creating a need for secret operations. It was during the inception of the C.I.A. that the initial discussion began involving this department and balancing intelligence gathering with covert operations. It was also under his watch that National Security Council directive 10/2 went into effect granting the C.I.A. the power of conducting covert operations:

The Central Intelligence Agency is charged by the National Security Council with conducting espionage and counter-espionage operations abroad. It therefore seems desirable, for operational reasons, not to create a new agency for covert operations, but in time of peace to place the responsibility for them within the structure of the Central Intelligence Agency and correlate them with espionage and counter-espionage operations under the over-all control of the Director of Central Intelligence.15

Director Hillenkoetter had previously voiced his opinion that the C.I.A. should be the only agency with the authority in conducting covert operations. Hillenkoetter wrote to the National Security Council (May 24, 1948) that “the overt foreign activities” of the United States “must be supplemented by covert operations” to maintain democracy throughout the globe.16 Under the imminent threat of Moscow, Hillenkoetter warned about the “vicious covert activities of the USSR, its satellite communities and Communist groups” which sought to “discredit and

15 Foreign Relations of the United States, 1945-1950/Emergence of the Intelligence Establishment, Doc 278
16 Foreign Relations of the United States, 1945-1950/Emergence of the Intelligence Establishment, Doc 278.
defeat the aims and activities” of the United States and her allies.¹⁷ In a general memorandum for the C.I.A., recent intelligence has given information concerning the KKE and its present role within the Greek political sphere while being in exile. Through “U.S. information and cultural programs”, these programs should “seek to convince the Greek people” that the “best means of maintaining political and economic independence” is through maintaining a strong, Western alliance.¹⁸

In a memorandum to Hillenkoetter from Deputy Director E.K. Wright, Wright upheld the notion that “all matters dealing with propaganda and psychological warfare” should be operated out of a branch of the State department and not the Security Council “due to their intimate nature” with the executive office.¹⁹ Wright went further, in a separate memorandum to the Chief of the Interagency Coordinating and Planning Staff, stating that an “isolated body of authority” was needed to “watch” over the “black operations.”²⁰ Wright defined this isolated body of authority as “the sole agency to conduct organized foreign clandestine operations. To sabotage this principle can only lead to chaos in this type of operation.”²¹

From the Office of Special Operations-Assistant Director Donald H. Galloway, an important memorandum outlines Directive No. 18/5 (March 29, 1948). Directive No. 18/5 delineated the purpose of, whom he referred to as the Special Procedures Group, the group assigned to perform these covert operations:

Special Procedures Group to engage in covert psychological operations outside the United States and its possessions, for the purpose of (1) undermining the strength of foreign instrumentalities, whether government, organizations, or individuals, which are

¹⁷ Foreign Relations of the United States, 1945-1950/Emergence of the Intelligence Establishment, Doc 278.
²¹ Foreign Relations of the United States, 1945-1950/Emergence of the Intelligence Establishment, Doc. 251.
engaged in activities inimical to the United States, and (2) to support United States’ foreign policy by influencing public opinion abroad in a direction favorable to the attainment of United States’ objectives.\(^\text{22}\)

The fostering of dependency seems to be created out of the Greek government’s need for Western assistance against the fear of a communist invasion. This dependency gave way for Western legitimacy as the Greek government would assist the anticommunist interests of their Western ally. In fact Washington knew that Greece was using extreme measures in policing the threat of communism within its borders, as the Secretary of State’s Special Assistant for Intelligence acknowledged that “Greece is heading in the wrong direction politically” in battling the communist threat.\(^\text{23}\) But his main concern lay in the fact that “the current relaxed international atmosphere in Greece” has benefited the left wing parties, and “provided the stimulus for an upsurge in Communist politically activity.”\(^\text{24}\)

To show a concern for the safety of Greece from the throes of communism, since the banning of the KKE, “a gradual acceleration of propaganda” for the restoration of the KKE has spread despite the Greek governments campaign of “forgetfulness and normalcy” to the Greek people.\(^\text{25}\) This confused many in Washington as the fight against communism was viewed as the justifiably moral fight by many American policy-makers. In addition with the resurgence of the KKE’s political ideals in Greece, this helped direct the political motives of both Washington and Athens to take this battle for ideological supremacy as top priority.

\(^{22}\) Foreign Relations of the United States, 1945-1950/Emergence of the Intelligence Establishment, Doc 263.
A study prepared by the State department estimated the “clandestine membership” of the KKE to be “30,000 in Greece with another 20,000-25,000 KKE members abroad.”  This report concluded that the “KKE appears to be pursuing a short-range program to neutralize” the relationship between Greece and her Western ally, the United States.  This interruption between Athens and Washington would open a pathway for the Soviet influence and the feared communist takeover of Greece.  This report mentions that an economic debilitation through military directives and procedures has placed a “considerable strain on the Greek budget, in order to work toward the achievement of its force goals.”  The passive acknowledgement of the Greek economy being in danger through the government’s wasteful spending through the military by Washington drives home that this Greek crisis meant more to Washington than the actual economic rehabilitation of Greece.

After the inception of the C.I.A. and its Special Procedures Group mission to conduct covert operations during peace time, Washington’s domestic policies heavily influenced how Athens would approach this topic of ideological differences within its own borders.  Granted the precept notion had been in place during the Metaxas Regime (1936-1941) long before the Nazi occupation, Washington’s influence granted legitimacy to this wave of Greek McCarthyism in the eyes of the world as the only fitting way to combat communism.  Samatas considers the

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Samatas discusses the similarities with the Emergency Law 516 which “gave Greek loyalty boards the authority to decide on all present or prospective government employees’ loyalty based upon any written or oral information… received from any ‘pertinent available information source’ and Greek Law 1612 which was in “conformance with U.S. law” and which “reactivated the Metaxas Espionage Law 375 (1936)”.  These two laws coincided with
Greek version of McCarthyism to be “far more repressive and violent” than the version which existed in the United States.\textsuperscript{30} What I wish to develop upon is Samatas’ argument that the Greek version of McCarthyism was indeed more socio-politically devastating to the people of Greece by using these methods of fear, terror and oppression.

The creation of the Greek loyalty boards under Greek Emergency Law 512 & 516 (1948) paved a way for the legislative importance on the concept of Greek loyalty versus those suspected or feared as communists. Those considered to be communists were brought before the board in order to defend themselves under the accusations of crimes against Greece. Those Greeks who accepted this legislative fear tactic were forced to produce a statement of repentance against the ills of being a communist. This form, called a δηλωεις, was forced upon many Greeks during the era of oppression as a means for control and fear of defying Greece in her time of need. In fear for their lives or the lives of family members, many Greeks were forced to produce a δηλωεις, such as Klaras was forced to during the Metaxas regime, to prove their loyalty to the Greek government. These forms generally followed a pattern that stayed in a standardized format during this oppressive era. This section will address four examples of these δηλωεις to illustrate the importance of these forms when discussing the oppressive and violent nature of Greek McCarthyism and the dangers it possessed to those Greeks on the wrong side of the political spectrum. Once again, many thanks to Professor Minas Samatas for his generosity in allowing me to use his previously published forms in my research. Without his help, this thesis would not have been possible.

In Minas Samatas’ journal article entitled, *Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticomunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era* taken from the Journal of Hellenic Diaspora, four examples of these loyalty statements are examined (see figure 1.3-1.4). Due to the difficult nature of locating these statements via online sources or archives without the benefit of traveling, Samatas granted me permission to use his examples to show the sterile nature of how the Greek government dealt with those considered being communist. The format of repenting one’s inequities towards Greece became standard practice according to Samatas with these forms. These δηλωείς were printed in daily government run newspapers and even read aloud during church services on Sunday in order for all Greeks to be aware of the imminent threat of communism. Although the following δηλωείς were produced during the era of the Colonel’s Junta (1967-1974), Samatas contends that “they are similar to those printed during the period 1947-1963” in all regards.31

As discussed in Chapter One, Hobbes noted that fear was a by-product of the state for order by creating “a sense of common purpose” for “modern elites” to exert fear “in order to rule.”32 By creating this sense of unity through these anticomunist government directives aimed at the social order of the country, the Greek government was responsible through these δηλωείς in creating a wave of fear among those suspected. Samatas later writes that:

> surveillance reflects both modernization and democratization of a state and society; aside technological advance and determinism, surveillance function, impact, and control reflect the power relations in a given society.33

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Robin also argued that the two methods in which the state could manufacture fear through political mechanisms were naming its common enemy and utilizing the threat of political fear and terror. Under this methodology the use of the δηλωείς as political oppression was vital in the fight against communism. The fear of personal death, due harm or death to family members, socio-political ostracism, the threat of deportation for reeducation, and/or exile from Greece clouded the minds of many fearful Greeks. The following will now examine these δηλωείς in relation to how they were used as a fear tactic and a method of governmental control to oppress those considered to be communists.

The παρακράτος utilized these statements as a government apparatus for control with the arrested Greek communists to instill what Hobbes described as state run order through campaigns of fear. These campaigns of fear were directed at maintaining a level of order through submission and oppression under what Samatas refers to as Greek McCarthyism. By analyzing Samatas’ published repentance statements, the translation of these forms places them into the context of marginalizing the communist from being a member of the party and sterilizing them into being a productive member of Greek society. This is evident according to the normative guidelines promoted by both Washington and Athens as dictated in the legislative initiatives aimed at the goal of ridding Greece of all communist influence.
Figure 1.3- ΥΠΕΥΘΥΝΟΣ ΔΗΛΩΣΙΣ #3 Published originally in Mesogéia, July-Sept. 1967 and reproduced with permission by Minas Samatas from his journal article, Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era.
ΔΗΛΩΣΙΣ

'Ο κάτωθι ύπογεγραμμένος του Δημητρίου, έτος 26, κατοικικώς 'Ανω 'Αρχανών, πορευόμενος κατά την Εφηβικήν, μια ηλικίαν όποι τών κηρυγμάτων του ξενοκινήτου κομμουνισμού, δηλώ σήμερον υπευθύνως ότι άποκηρύσσω αυτόν ως ιδεολογίαν μη άρμοζουσαν εις έλευθερους άνθρωπους δι'ή Ελληνικός, θεωρώ αυτόν και τά πάσης φύσεως ύποκατάστατα το ως άντεχνικά καὶ προδοτικά καὶ τας σομαίς ανεπιφύλακτας παρά το πλειον τῆς Εθνικῆς Κυβερνήσεως.

'Εν 'Αρχάνοις τῆς 11)8) 1967

'Ο δηλών

ΥΠΕΥΘΥΝΟΣ ΔΗΛΩΣΙΣ

'Ο ύπογεγραμμένος τού Νικολάου καὶ τῆς 'Ελευθερίας, γεννηθεις εἰς 'Ελλωντα Λασιθίου καὶ κατοικοῦν εἰς 'Ηράκλειον., δηλω διὰ τῆς παρουσίας μου δι' αυτής τοῦ ημερομηνίου μετά τὰ γεγονότα της Εθνικής Κυβερνήσεως.

'Εν 'Ηρακλείῳ τῆς 21)8) 67

'Ο δηλών

Figure 1.4 ΥΠΕΥΘΥΝΟΣ ΔΗΛΩΣΙΣ #4 Published originally in Mesogeia, July-Sept. 1967 and reproduced with permission by Minas Samatas from his journal article, Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era.
As seen in figure 1.3, the first δηλωεις given as an example of a communist who accepts the Greek government’s request to repent his allegiance to the KKE and publish his ill-fated relationship within this statement.

δηλω υπειθυνως και εν γιωσει των συνεπειων του νομου περι ψευδους δηλωσεως στι κατα την διαρκειαν την Κατοχης προσεχισμα εικονισθαλως εις το ΕΑΜ του χωριου μου... αντιληφθας εις την πλανην μου ΚΚΕ, δι ο και αποκηρυσσω τουτο σηφαδας ως αντεθνικας, προδοτικας και δρωσας εις βαρος της εδαφικης ακεραιο της πατριδος μας 34

Here ο υπογεγραμμενος (which translates into ‘the undersigned’) realigns his allegiance back with Greece as he repudiates his association with the KKE, which he joined in August of 1944. He states that from the day he signed this form, he “δηλω υπειθυνως” to the fullest extent of Greek law, therefore, separating himself from the communist party and confirming his civic-mindedness to Greece.35 He continues with:

αντιληφθας την πλανην μου ΚΚΕ, δι ο και αποκηρυσσω τουτο σηφαδας αυτου ως αντεθνικας, προδοτικας και δρωσας εις βαρος της εδαφικης ακεραιο τητος της πατριδος μας 36

His direct assumption of guilt and realignment of his loyalty to Greece is a result of his fear of being considered anti-national, treacherous, and part of the ongoing concern within the borders of Greece. This particular δηλωεις is a great example of how the threat of being anti-national or

34 Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora, Volume XIII, Issue 3 (Fall-Winter 1986): 62. This passage translates into “…declares allegiance in this repentance statement to the full effects of Greek law that when the occupation began, I joined the KKE voluntarily… I realized my fallacy and interrupted any and all relations with the KKE by which I repudiate my connection this day. I understand that this connection is considered as anti-national, treacherous and an ongoing concern within our homeland’s territorial figure.”
36 Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora, Volume XIII, Issue 3 (Fall-Winter 1986): 62. Translated into: “I realized my fallacy and interrupted any and all relations with the KKE by which I repudiate my connection this day. I understand that this connection is considered as anti-national, treacherous and an ongoing concern within our homeland’s territorial figure.” His direct assumption of guilt and realignment to Greece is a direct result of his fear of being considered anti-national, treacherous, and part of the ongoing concern within the borders of Greece.
treacherous to Greece under the current regime instilled fear and terror into those suspected of being communists and how to renounce one’s party affiliation outright and all commandments obeyed during this time as a party member. The second δηλωεις in figure one, o υπογραμμενος declares:

δηλω υπευθυνως οτι παρασυρθεις εψηφισα επι τι διαστημα εωθες μετα την ΕΔΑ. Σημερον ομως διαπιστωνω οτι το κομμα τουτο ειναι αντεθνικον και προδατικον και οτι επιβουλευεται την ακεραιοτητα και την εθνικην υποστασιν της πατριδος μου, αποκηρυσησω τουτο και τασσομαι ανεπιφυλακτως παρα το πλευρον της Εθνικης Κυβερνησεως.37

The accused states that he was led astray by the communist party after the liberation from the Nazis. He continues with the statement affirming the Greek government’s claim that the communist party is anti-national with an end result of treachery and evil that impinges the integrity of the Greek character and my homeland.38 He ends the statement by unconditionally repudiating his allegiance with the communist party and asserting to adhere to the qualities of the Greek national government.39 As seen in the first δηλωεις, the language stays along the same lines as both υπογραμμενος appear to repent their allegiance to the communist party wholeheartedly to re-align themselves under the blanket of the Greek government’s new approach to anti-communism. They both announce that the communist party is anti-national with only treacherous goals in store for Greece’s socio-political future.

37 Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora, Volume XIII, Issue 3 (Fall-Winter 1986): 62. Translated into: “solemnly declared that I was led astray by the communist party and the EDA after the liberation of our peninsula. I declare my repentance on this day, but note that this anti-national party end result is treacherous and evil and that it impinges the integrity of the Greek character and my homeland. I am unconditionally repudiating my end with the party by producing the qualities of the Greek national government.”


We see that these two δηλωεις are prime examples of how state run fear tactics could easily persuade the suspected Greek communists to renounce their political affiliations when prompted by the Greek government under national minded qualities. As we move onto figure 1.4, ο υπογεγραμμενος declares:

Παρασυρθείς κατά την εφηβική μου ηλικίαν υπό των κηρυγμάτων του ξενοκινητου κομμουνισμού δήλω σήμερον υπευβυνωσ στις αποκηρύσσω αυτών ως ιδεολογίαν μη αρμόζουσαν εις ελευθέρους ανθρώπους και δή Ελληνας, θεωρώ αυτό και τα πασης φυσεως υποκατάστατα και τασσομαι ανεπιφυλακτως παρά το πλευρον της Εθνικης Κυβερνήσεως.

Here the accused explains that during the time of the occupation, he was led astray by a deputy of the KKE who spoke of unpatriotic sermons of communism. As seen in the previous δηλωεις, the formula remains the same in repudiating the communist ideology as not appropriate for Greece, while declaring all members of the communist party as unpatriotic and a traitor and aligning himself as unconditionally patriotic to Greece. As Samatas declared, a pattern does exist within these government mandated forms to declare one’s allegiance and patriotism to Greece.

These δηλωεις begins with the formal declaration of one’s wrong doings according to the Greek anti-communist directives followed by the supposition of un-patriotism and anti-national motives coming from the communist party ideology. This form of political fear drives the o

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40 Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora, Volume XIII, Issue 3 (Fall-Winter 1986): 63. Translates into: “drifted astray by an offender/deputy (KKE) my age: he spoke of unpatriotic sermons of communism, I declare on this day that I reliably repudiate him as an ideology not appropriate as in free people and the Greek public, I consider this and to all deputies to be unpatriotic and a traitor and I am unconditionally patriotic despite the standpoint of the Greek national government.”


υπογεγραμμενος to a state of morbid fear for the safety of not only themselves, but also their loved ones and family members. No one was safe when it came to the massive surveillance that the Greek government had amassed on its populace. With the combination of the ΙΔΙΟΝΥΜΟ νομους (Idionymo laws) and numerous φακελοι, the Greek government had begun to take control of the Greek population with fear and with no end in sight.43

While the ΙΔΙΟΝΥΜΟ νομους helped produce the fear of arrest, harmful interrogations, deportation, or even death in the heart of many Greeks, the branding of a Greek citizen as not loyal to the country in the φακελοι could mean a worse sentence. The act of branding one as not loyal, or μιασμα (translated as non-nationally minded dirt), in Greece could mean the loss of many social freedoms and even ostracizing from the socio-political sphere. To be accused of a ΙΔΙΟΝΥΜΟ νομους meant one’s social and political doom most certainly under the statute of a “thought crime, guilt by association, or collective responsibility.”44 Samatas writes that this ideological battle between anticommunists and communists, as Washington first joined, was called the “deEAMization” of the Greek population through these various mechanisms of political control.45

By using the principle factor as loyalty to Greece, the government was able to transform the population into a divided mass through ideological lines and fear. Many forms of surveillance, such as the use of χαφιεδες (or informers), helped bring the modernization of surveillance in Greece to such a success in battling the threat of communism. The Greek

43 Minas Samatas, “Greek McCarthyism: A Comparative Assessment of Greek Post-War Repressive Anticommunism and the United States Truman-McCarthy Era”, Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora, Volume XIII, Issue 3 (Fall-Winter 1986). As referenced in Chapter 2, this law meant basically thought crime while the files produced from Greek police and KYP surveillance were known as fakeloi.
government used the imminent threat of poverty in a time of high unemployment and a fledgling postwar Greek economy as temptation to lure “mostly ex-communists and lumpen (sic) proletarians who purchased their freedom by spying against fellow” Greeks.46

The Greek government used the temptation of attaining public employment as a “socio-economic mechanism for upward mobility… (and) political control” in exchange for monetary support by the Greek government.47 The Greek government understood that the push for a unified loyal population was dependent upon making sure every citizen feared the alternative. With these methods of surveillance and various political mechanisms of control, the Greek government proved successful in keeping the communists and those associated with the adverse ideology at bay in a turbulent, socio-political time in postwar Greece.

4.2 A Domestic War in Greece against Communism

In an article titled “Murder Inc, in Greece” by Olive Sutton, he illustrates just what his title claims in post-Truman Doctrine Greece. Sutton explains the “raids on villages” by Lieutenant General James Van Fleet and the horrendous “pictures of the victims in the newspapers” supported by the American-backed Greek government.48 Sutton explains that “650,000 people have been uprooted from their homes” as a direct result of these raids carried out by Greek government forces.49 Where this number comes from is the key question to take from this line in his narrative. There is no source quotation in the article; therefore, the statement lacks validity but shows that this culture of fear created perhaps myth-making to help this fear

permeate throughout the Greek society. Either way, it is imperative to consider the role of United States troops in Greece and their duty in helping the Greek government to consider these methods of state control through fear tactics. Although lacking concrete evidence to support these claims, Sutton’s article should be viewed in the context of the existence of suffering and state run fear which existed in Greece regardless. This article was created with the intent of informing the public of how Washington backed the παρακρατος in its effort to create fear in the minds of the Greek populace.

Under article IV entitled “The State Department Starts Shoving”, Sutton tells of a massacre which occurred during March 31, where “1,289 persons were assassinated” as a direct result, and a member of the “American supervisory mission” named Helen Crosby “resigned because of things she saw” in Greece. Sutton argues Crosby witnessed “police terror and fixed electoral lists” that allowed names of deceased Greeks to participate in the 1946 elections. Sutton gives no apparent citations for the included quote from Mrs. Crosby, but it is necessary to include when discussing the culture which arose from this culture of fear in Greek society:

I resigned because the total ultimate effect of our intervention in Greek affairs would clearly be to establish an unrepresentative, undemocratic government and thereby to encourage a new and more terrible civil war.

Sutton implies that Washington saw Greece as their neo-colonial subject with the “policy to extend American control… by force, if necessary” and granting legitimacy for the Greek

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government with two measures. First, with the formal declaration by Paul Economou-Goras for help in “black and white… from the Greek government” and lastly with the “agreement” by putting the Marshall-Truman Doctrine “into operation” making Greece an “American colony” with Washington serving as the “colonial administration.” Sutton concludes that the mass arrests and deportations “went into effect… on a grand scale” after the indoctrination of the Truman Doctrine and its policies. Sutton cites that during July 1947, the Athens government “arrested 15,000 more men and women”; many would be deported to reeducation camps such as Icaria. On Icaria, Demetrius Paparigas, Secretary-General of the Greek Confederation of Labor, wrote that “9,000 prisoners (arrived) from the mainland” and “were in danger of dying from starvation and disease… under indescribably inhuman conditions.” These conditions were meant to break the spirits of the detained communist Greek traitors and reeducate them into becoming productive members of an anticommunist Greek society.

Sutton contends that this act of war has been bestowed upon Greece by Washington despite Truman’s declaring that the operation in Greece is purely a “military program” bent on preventing communism from taking control in Greece. The argument of validity may play a role in the creation of this article, but what the reader should not discredit is the reasoning behind its creation. Simply put, the emotion of fear was being instilled into the culture of Greece to

combat this emergence of European communism in an effort to roll back any communist influence within the Greek government.

This chapter brought together the methods utilized by the Greek government as a means to oppress those considered to be μιασμα to Greece and how these tactics could inflict harm to the accused. These policies were at times very harsh and detrimental to the sanctity of the Greek psyche, as these policies would cause the Greek populace to repent crimes against Greece even if they were innocent in nature. Failure to do so would mean death, socio-political marginalization, and even deportation to make-shift Greek island prisons used to break down the μιασμα of Greece. Just the threat of being forced to leave one’s family would cause the repentance statement to be filled out, even if it was in error. Due process was not a part of the Greek judicial system during this era of anti-communist legislation, unlike its American counter-part. This caused much pain and hardship to the Greek populace, resulting in the παρακρατος gaining political influence with many forms of oppression against communists.

Despite the conditions in post—Civil War Greece, this oppressive behavior lasted throughout much of the Cold War until the end of the Junta (1974). The nature of the past has caused much harm to the fragility of emotions for the surviving Greeks of this era of oppression. Those Greeks who did not leave the country during this time were forced to succumb to the παρακρατος and their policies against communism in post war Greece. I hope that this thesis can awaken the need for an in-depth look into how these policies and initiatives caused a nation to live in fear, despite being a democratic nation regulated in peace and justice for all. The need for additional scholarship on this subject will open up the history of early United States foreign policy during the Cold War and how it became a neo-colonial attempt at impeding the Soviet menace from becoming victorious in this ideological war. Furthermore, there is the need for
scholarship illustrating how Greece used the guise of Soviet containment to feed its craving for retribution against the left via their role in the Greek Civil War. Greece played out a much larger role within the Cold War narrative than what most history books outline presently. This thesis should awaken the historian to new paths of academia in Cold War research regarding Greece and the super powers.
Conclusion

In summation, the Cold War era in Greece was very hostile to the communist ideology and its followers. With any form of governmental oppression instituted in Greece, my research argues that there are many similarities between Greece, a NATO ally, and any Communist Soviet Bloc country in relation to the treatment of their populace. From just the understanding of how these measures were initiated in pre-emptive fashion by preventing a communist takeover of Greece, one would assume this would have been the by-product of a government built on complete control and oppressive mechanisms much like any Soviet Bloc country during the Cold War era. This narrative brought to the forefront what role Greece actually played in the larger context of the Cold War between the two global Super Powers. And how this marginalization of the Greek populace (whether communist or not) was justified through means of political rhetoric aimed at the destruction of the dissident left. This era produced a strict, marginalization of anyone considered to be a Greek national dissident during the post-Civil War era which caused a culture of fear to permeate throughout Greece in fear of being branded a traitor.

It is understood by many Cold War historians that a communist takeover in Greece would have given a clear path for the Soviets to march into the Middle East, therefore, halting the oil reserves that the United States and its allies depended upon for their survival. This cry for help by Greece was shadowed under a cloak of retribution by those who were targeted during the Red Terror campaign during the Greek Civil War. Washington had their apprehensions concerning the methodology used by the Greek government, but ultimately the fear of a communist takeover won over the minds of the bureaucrats in Washington. This dire point of view in Washington
helped benefit the corrupt opportunists holding various key positions within the Greek government. During such a fragile time in Greek history, Washington aided not only in rehabilitating Greece’s economy but also advancing a campaign of White Terror bent on retribution for past misdeeds by the communists during the Greek Civil War. These acts of aggression during the Civil War only added more fuel to a subdued hostility that resulted in the culture of fear in a post—Civil War Greece.

What Washington did was grant the Greek government the legitimacy to use these oppressive techniques discussed in this narrative to marginalize the Greek communists and even those suspected of suspicious, dissident activities. By allowing governmental mechanisms of control, Washington placed the need for a secure, Democratic gateway to the Middle East and the containment of communism over the rights of the Greek populace. These governmental mechanisms of control which led to the culture of fear included the use of the δηλωείς, the application of the civic-mindedness certificates, and the use of the ΙΑΙΩΝΥΜΟ νομος and the creation of the re-education camps. This course of action led Greece to mimic the oppressive nature of many Soviet Bloc countries despite being the birthplace of democracy. Washington should not have allowed these oppressive mechanisms of control in a country that was a current member of NATO if this behavior was not allowed within the borders of the United States.

Fighting fire with fire led to much internal chaos with the constant threat of a societal uprising which led Greece into a political and an impending, financial crisis. The present shape of Greece echoes many horrors of the past. Due to the negligent nature of Greece’s political leaders, this helped usher in the financial woes which Greece faces today in the European Union. The civil unrest has laid dormant from the end of the Junta (1974), only to rise up and take the populace into a violent, frenzy in the wake of the push for harsh, economic austerity measures.
The need for further research into this tumultuous era in Greek history and its context within the Cold War should be addressed by Cold War, European, and Transnational historians. A more, in-depth look into the lives of these marginalized Greeks is where the focus needs to be initiated.

These historians need to ask the pertinent questions relating how their daily lives were affected by these oppressive mechanisms and what the after effect created within this Greek culture of fear. Researching available primary documents relating to the oppressed Greeks hold the key to how life was viewed in a post—Civil War Greece. By focusing on the oppressed, this will open a new light into how this era related to the overall context of Cold War history. A new kind of war fought neither on U.S. nor Soviet soil, but instead on a European Mediterranean country known for its classical antiquity and myths of legend. This new kind of war beckons that the Cold War will be known infamously as an implacable conflict of embattled ideologies being fought on foreign soil. In causation, the blood of the innocent would be spilled and the cries of their mothers would be shed in abundant amounts without concern by either side of the Super Powers.
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