

Papandreou: lawless, tyrant, traitor

by Phocion

Andreas Papandreou, Greece's Socialist prime minister, survived the general elections of Sunday, June 2, 1985. His nation did not. The international strategic issues that were played out in that election were such that it is questionable whether the world, too, will ultimately survive the debacle of Greece's fall into the Soviet sphere of strategic influence on June 2, 1985.

For reasons that will become evident to doubting Thomases, far too late for their own good, the nation of Greece is now a Trojan Horse of Moscow within NATO's citadel. The latter day Trojans in the West who disbelieve this Cassandra's warning are not likely to fare better than King Priam's charges.

The internal and external military circumstances of that election were conspicuous: In nearby Bulgaria, joint Soviet-Bulgarian military maneuvers were taking place on election day, during which both Soviet and Bulgarian combat aircraft took the opportunity to repeatedly violate both neighboring Turkey's and Greece's air space. Within Greece, Papandreou, who is also the defense minister, deployed military units at radio and television stations and relay facilities and troops in civilian attire all across the so-called "political" quarters of Athens, stretching from the Army Mutual Fund building to Parliament building across Constitution Square. Army units were on their traditional low-level alert status as always on election day, except for units deployed along the Greek-Bulgarian border. There, on Papandreou's orders, all conscripts and officers suspected of harboring political allegiances hostile to the prime minister were disarmed, sequestered, and placed under observation.

The extent of Bulgarian penetration in that area cannot be ascertained because of the secrecy shrouding that isolated area of the country. Suffice to report the following two incidents: One Lt.-Col. George Plakantonakis commanded the critical Communications Battalion of Kavalla in northern Greece until a few days before the election. The battalion in question is assigned to secure and cover all military communications in that border area and also to monitor both overt and clandestine communications of nearby Bulgaria. Suddenly, the colonel ended his military service and appeared as the leading candidate on the election lists of the Greek Communist Party in the nearby town of Drama.

A second episode involves the discovery of Bulgarian

trucks importing into Greece Greek election ballot boxes stuffed with pro-Papandreou ballots. Given Papandreou's present control over law enforcement and military institutions, the extent of Bulgarian involvement in the 1985 Greek elections will become known only if his lawless regime is, one day, replaced.

Apart from direct Bulgarian tampering, the election results were "fixed" by a variety of means, both traditional in Greek elections and novel. The novelties included a deal between Papandreou and Greek Communist Party General Secretary Harilaos Florakis, consummated in the latter's Athens residence on Saturday, June 1, during a visit Papandreou paid him that night. In exchange for commitments which will soon become evident, Florakis gave instructions for a certain portion of Communist Party voters to cast their votes for Papandreou's party, the PASOK. It is generally estimated by on-the-ground observers in Greece that, of the 45.8% plurality won by Papandreou, 4.5% is accounted for by Communist Party votes deriving from this agreement.

In addition, in many election districts where tight races were run, inordinate amounts of ballots cast for the conservative opposition New Democracy Party were declared invalid by election judges. Ballot stuffing, ballot "fixing," and vote stealing were compounded by traditional coercion and intimidation of voters—especially farmers dependent on state subsidies, and civil servants.

The effect of these techniques, added to the 4.5% Communist Party votes, produced not a majority but a narrow plurality for Papandreou's party. His opponent New Democracy Party trailed him by exactly five percentage points at 40.8%. He turned his fictitious plurality in popular votes into an absolute majority in parliamentary seats because, right before the election, he changed the election law so as to be able to redistribute votes (and parliament seats), from the parties with the smallest number of votes to the one with the greatest relative plurality.

Recounting these facts is useful for the incredulous: The parliament which rules Greece today is an illegitimate parliament; the bastard child of a fraudulent election. And that bastard is owned, soul and body, by Andreas Papandreou. The deputies filling its chambers were not elected by the people in direct elections. Incredible as it may sound to West-

ern political practitioners, the elections held in Greece on June 2 were not direct parliamentary elections. The voters were not allowed to vote for the deputy candidates of their choice. Mr. Papandreou's reform of the election law eliminated the voter's right to elect legislators. The voters could only vote for parties; Papandreou personally handpicked who the legislators would be. It is as though the next congressional elections in the United States were to be held without state primaries and, when you arrived at the voting booth, you, say a Democrat in Louisiana, had to vote for your congressman, a strange man handpicked by Walter Mondale of Minnesota.

Andreas Papandreou organized a Soviet-style election. He won a Soviet-style election. To win, he employed Soviet-style techniques. And Moscow-directed, Communist votes. Not only is the result of this election, the Parliament and its prime minister, illegal; the election itself is the result of a series of violations of the Greek constitution committed by Papandreou. Therefore, for the record, and for history, we inscribe the fact that both the election of June 2, 1985 and its result, the present Parliament, are, in fact, illegal.

The Papandreou regime is beyond the pale of law.

The Periclean precedent

The international strategic issues which propelled Papandreou to so indulge in his innate proclivity to lawlessness and tyranny are such that the Greek nation, as a nation, may not survive and probably will not survive. A bitter conclusion for this writer to draw.

This particular bitterness pales into insignificance when the loss of the Greek nation is seen in the vastly greater perspective of the imminent disintegration of NATO's European—and thus global—defenses.

In Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou's inner councils, behind the backs of his hapless parliamentary deputies, behind the backs of his "new breed" of manic, self-admiring Foreign Service appointees, in the inner councils where only few tread, such as Agamemnon Koutsogiorgas, "Jerry" Arsenis, Margaret Chadd, Carolos Papoulias, Michael Ziangas, Michel "Pablo," the belief prevails that their little team running Greece is playing a prominent role in reshaping the political and strategic map of Europe. The private rationalization among these persons is that they, in concert with Lord Carrington's "school of thought," are leading Europe into an independent military status, free from the United States and the Soviet Union. Papandreou's collaborators flatter themselves that they are blazing a new trail of history, asserting "Europe's independence" from the United States.

It won't wash. Papandreou and his wife are Soviet agents in precisely the technical sense of the term as it applied to convicted Arne Treholt and Günther Guillaume, his close associates. For us who know, Papandreou's personal life, proclivities, and preferences have for many years provided more opportunities for KGB blackmail than the pathetic Arne

Treholt's known vulnerabilities. Similar stories can be recounted for his circle of immediate collaborators. Both Papandreou and some of his entourage have for years been Soviet-controlled assets, pursuing Soviet foreign policy directives and pretending, mostly to others, occasionally to themselves, that they are simply "renovating NATO" according to Carrington's prescription.

The June 5-7 conference of NATO's foreign ministers is the circumstance which situates the significance of Papandreou's June 2 re-election. In that meeting, Lord Carrington's strategic policy came into full play. Simply put, it is Neville Chamberlain's policy in the nuclear era. Carrington, with assistance from Hans-Dietrich Genscher, (Papandreou's intimate) Roland Dumas, and George Shultz himself, issued a NATO policy which commands the United States to keep its strategic forces within "SALT II levels," in the face of massive Soviet violations, to "observe the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty" after the Soviets have torn it to

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shreds and, essentially, to repudiate President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative—perhaps the only remaining chance to resist global Russian imperial diktat.

There is a background of harsh military realities behind this treacherous appeasement: Since approximately 1977, the United States has fallen into a status of decisive strategic inferiority with respect to the Soviet Union. Ten years after McGeorge Bundy's 1967 doctrine of Flexible Response, the United States found itself not only unable to "defend Europe," but with its own home "deterrent force" thoroughly compromised. Contrary to Papandreou's trite cheap shots at "American imperialism," the only imperial power on earth today, one which is capable of dictating its will even upon the United States, is the Soviet Union.

Lord Carrington's scheme for an "independent" Europe is merely an attempt to sugar-coat the imminent transformation of Europe into a Russian satrapy. Papandreou's and PASOK's brave anti-American rhetoric is a cheap shot. It

doesn't take guts to display anti-Americanism in a Europe already overwhelmed and terrified by Soviet arms. Ignorant Greek youths may imagine anti-Americanism to be a badge of heroic defiance. It is, in fact, the height of docility when, with a Russian pistol at your temple, you scream anti-American slogans and hurl them at an America already half on its knees.

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In two respects, is Papandreou tragically similar to the ancient Athenian politician Pericles, the one of undeserved Golden Age fame: Greece under Papandreou is like Athens under Pericles, according to Thucydides' immortal aphorism: "In name, a democracy; in fact, one man's rule."

Papandreou's tyranny over Greece is similar to Pericles' also in this: Pericles was a traitor who sold all of Greece to the Persian Empire, ruthlessly murdered the Athenian patriot-republican elite, the Areopagos party of Solon and Solon's successors, Aeschylus, Miltiades, the victor of the battle of Marathon, his son Cimon, their generals and their political associates who were following in the tradition of Aristides, "The Just."

Pericles and his party, founded by one Ephialtes, a "Michel Pablo" of his day, destroyed republicanism and Solon's tradition in Athens for the same reason that Papandreou has shredded the present Greek Constitution today: in order to shift the international alliances of Athens and cause a fundamental shift in his state's foreign policy. The Periclean program, as surviving documents show, called for an end to the—successfully prosecuted—war against Persian imperialism, and alliance with the Persian King, an end of the Athenian alliance with the republican-leaning factions of Sparta and a war against Sparta.

The Periclean program was adopted by means of vote fraud and vote "fixing." It led directly to the 30-year Peloponnesian War and the complete destruction of Athens. Athenian republicanism never rose again, with consequences which proved absolutely momentous for the future of world history.

Now Papandreou: His nation, modern Greece, became a sovereign nation-state in the year 1827, as a consequence of a train of events which had been set in motion by the American Revolution of 1776. No sovereign nation-state in the legal/constitutional sense we understand the term had ever existed in the world prior to that American Revolution. Greece's own real founding father, the great Adamantios Coray, knew better than most in what way the modern Greek state owed its existence to America. Papandreou was called upon to preside over this nation's fortunes at a time in which the very existence of this America, fallen in bad times, ex-

hausted, demoralized, with its national purpose almost forgotten by its people and daily betrayed by its corrupted politicians, has come to be doubtful.

Papandreou has aligned his nation with the strong of the day, a Soviet Empire which has inherited the legacies and political ideals of the oriental empires of old. His allies' final success will spell his own nation's demise. Unlike the treacherous Pericles, Papandreou is likely to live long enough to see that demise with his own eyes.

To his Greek patriot friends, this writer can say that his forecasts, so like those of General Phocion of olden times, need not be proven true by future developments. Their nation can yet be, only if they proceed without illusions. The reality they have to face is that Greece is now lost. Its history, its culture, the revered shrines of its antiquity, its people and their institutions, all that which Greece once meant to the world and what it might once again mean in the future, they are all in the hands of Moscow, the Third Rome. Greece's ship of state is a wreck on the craggy promontory of the

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Sirens, and the treacherous, foolish Papandreou at the ruined helm. You have lost Greece.

Face this fact and then draw from within you the resources required not for saving a nation, for it is too late for that. Greek patriots' task is to *revive* a nation slain in the hand of the Russian imperial proconsul, Igor Andropov. The world strategic stakes played out on their soil in the June 2 election were no less significant than those over which the Persian Wars of 490 and 480 B.C. were fought. The election was a sort of Thermopylae in which the Persian imperial host won. Unlike in the original Thermopylae, these were bloodless, because the Greeks did not fight. Ephialtes and not Leonidas commanded them this time. From this national calamity to organize a victorious Marathon, many and great sacrifices will be required. Greek patriots will be chastised; they will live with disaster; suffering will purge their folly as though living through an Aeschylean tragedy. All they have left to live by, ironically, is this one exhortation from Aeschylus: *Aelinon, aelinon eipe, to d' eu nikato*. (Utter the funeral dirge, the funeral dirge, yet let Good prevail.)