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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OMB-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-25 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /150 W

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R 301724Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5969
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS LONDON 14026

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PINT, GR
SUBJECT: PAPADOPOULOS REPORTED TO HAVE REFUSED CHANCE TO FLEE ABROAD

1. ACCORDING TO "TIMES" REPORT FROM ATHENS NOVEMBER 29
BY MARIO MODIANO, DEPOSED PRESIDENT PAPADOPOULOS REFUSED
TO FLEE ABROAD WHEN OFFERED CHANCE BY HIS CAPTORS SOON
AFTER COUP LAST SUNDAY. ARTICLE SAID "QUALIFIED SOURCES
IN ATHENS" REPORTED PAPADOPOULOS HAD BEEN OFFERED
AIRLINE TICKETS FOR HIMSELF AND HIS WIFE. SOURCES
INSISTED PAPADOPOULOS STILL UNDER HOUSE ARREST AT HIS
SUMMER VILLA AT LAGONISSI. RUMORS HE HAD BEEN KILLED
OR COMMITED SUICIDE WERE DENIED BY THE SOURCES, WHO
SAID HIS BROTHER, CONSTANTINE PAPADOPOULOS, HAD BEEN
ALLOWED TO SPEAK TO HIM ON THE TELEPHONE MORNING
NOVEMBER 29. SOURCES ALSO DENIED REPORTS HE HAD BEEN
CONFINED TO AIR FORCE OFFICERS SUMMER CAMP AT AYIOS
ANDREAS.

2. ARTICLE CONTINUED WITH REPORT OF COMMENTS AGAINST
NEW REGIME BY FORMER MINISTER JOHN ZIGDIS AND FORMER
PRIME MINISTER STEFANOS STEFANOPoulos, THE LATTER
HAVING CHANGED HIS LINE AFTER ORIGINAL STATEMENT WEL-
COMING OVERTHROW OF "ONE MAN, ANARCHIST, AND CORRUPT
REGIME."

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REGIME."
3. ARTICLE NOTES SILENCE OF KANELLOPOULOS AND MAVROS. IT COMMENTS THAT IN ABSENCE OF DEFINITE SCHEDULE FOR RESTORATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, POPULAR MOOD IS ONE OF DISENCHANTMENT, WITH A FEW LINGERING ELEMENTS OF HOPE. HOPE APPEARS CENTERED ON FACT REGIME HAD LITTLE TIME TO ENGINEER COUP AND BRING TOGETHER SUCH DISPARATE ELEMENTS.

4. ARTICLE GOES ON TO QUOTE ATHENS NEWSPAPER ON EVENTS WITHIN ORTHODOX CHURCH WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY KNOWN TO ADDRESSEES. IT NOTES THE PRIMATE, ARCHBISHOP IERONYMOS, FELT HUMILIATED BECAUSE NEW PRESIDENT AND GOVERNMENT IGNORED HIM AND INVITED BISHOP SERAFIM OF IOANNINA TO ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE.

5. THIS ARTICLE AND OTHERS IN LONDON ORESS NOTE THAT ONLY FEW PEOPLE OF THOSE ARRESTED IN ATHENS IN CONNECTION WITH DISORDERS EARLIER THIS MONTH HAVE BEEN RELEASED. MODIANO PUTS NUMBER OF THOSE STILL DETAINED AT ABOUT 200. THIS INCLUDES FORMER DEPUTY FOTILAS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LONDON14026
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973113/aaaaabpk.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions:
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Aug-2001 by maustmc>; APPROVED <20-Aug-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAPADOPOULOS REPORTED TO HAVE REFUSED CHANCE TO FLEE ABROAD
TAGS: PINS, PINT, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005