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By WAY OF INTRODUCTION.

- Kalimera sas Kyrie Angle⁽¹⁾! Have you slept well?
- Very well - a whole twelve hours.
- Have you had breakfast?
- What have they got?
- Tepid, sweet tea without milk - that's all.

It was only eight o'clock but the bright Greek sun beating against the white-washed walls of the rectangular little square made me squint and had to use ~~my~~ ^{the} palm ^{of my hand} as a protection for the eyes.

Someone ^{brought me} an aluminium bowl of tea and one of the group standing round my questioner offered me a paximashi⁽²⁾. I accepted it with thanks. Dipping ~~my~~ ^{it} paximashi into my tea - and if one feels that is offending against drawing-room manners I can only say that is the only way to eat paximashi unless one is blessed with a strong jaw-bone and perfect teeth - I had my breakfast. I felt like a visitor from another world and perhaps looked it. I noticed that ~~I felt that~~ ^{I realized that} ~~that~~ ^{my} ~~my~~ ^{my} tongue had to be loosened somehow.

It was my first night in jail - the Averoff ^{Central} Prison in Athens. I was taken in the previous afternoon and had already formed some acquaintances among the prisoners. ~~attachments~~ ^{and} in a mysterious way - ~~indicating~~ ^{indicating} human adaptability? - ~~somehow~~ ^{I felt quite comfortable and at ease with my surroundings.} ~~I felt that~~ ^{Mr.} ~~that~~ ^{Star} ~~to the place.~~ ^{of Alex} (Stavros Hadjistylianos from Alexandria), one

1 Good morning Mr. Englishman.

2. A kind of army biscuit - bread ^{rolls} baked twice.

of Patrick Leigh Fermor's ^{party} ~~group~~ of daring raiders who abducted a German General from Crete during the war (he was in the group that held-up the car and subsequently drove the car ^{with the General in it} past German sentries), put me wise to prison routine and the code of prison behaviour. Every human fraternity has its system of conduct and obeys the unwritten laws of its ~~own~~ creation. A Greek seaman, an irrepressible individualist, who had sailed the seven seas and seen the inside of many jails ^{and} who was the first to proclaim me an "Englishman" by the cut of my clothes and the type of shoes I was wearing, put me wise ~~to~~ to things concerning personal comfort, ^{hygiene,} ~~the~~ ^{indicated ways and means for acquiring the requisite} acquisition of the necessary furniture for my cell, ^{lectured me on} the use of the pot and ^{of} how to eliminate smells, etc. A deaf and dumb boy (Star, was the interpreter of his sign language) and an earnest Cretan youth were also among my first acquaintances.

Supper on the first night consisted of a ladle-ful of chick-peas dressed in olive oil. A mouthful was enough! Though I had nothing to eat for two days (in the State Security Headquarters where I was held the first night, no meals ~~were~~ provided), ^{I could not get it down.} ~~none here~~ This ~~must~~ did not escape the attention of ^{those standing by me, somehow it got around} ~~my acquaintances~~ and before we were locked in for the night, literally a cavalcade passed by my cell one left an orange, the other bread, a third cheese and yet another one a boiled egg. ^{Lucullus could not have been more pleased.} ~~like Lucullus~~ and ~~standing~~ now here in sun, talking to them, I was conscious of gratitude and I felt friendship.

welling up ^{inside me}. Now it was ~~the~~ time for talk, for confidence. Prison ^{life} like army life bring out confidences. But before I even formulated ^{in my mind} the inhibited questions, so much hemmed in by circumspection, characteristic of the northerners, I was asked:-

- How do Greek jails compare with ^{the} foreign ones?
- I don't know. This is my first experience.
- Haven't you been in jail before?
- No!
- Surely not even in England?
- Not even in England.
- Surely you must visited one either ^{as} journalist or to ^{see} ~~visit~~ a friend, or relative?
- Never.

They looked incredulous. To a Greek whose national life for the last twenty-five years, has been a series of massively tragic convulsions, dictatorship, war, occupation, ^{revolutions} ~~two civil~~ ^{and repressions,} wars ~~with their~~ cruel aftermaths, which left behind them destruction and misery, broken homes, broken bodies and broken loyalties, prison, exile, and death were things for ever hovering on the horizon of ^{his} ~~their~~ existence. Although tranquillity has returned the memories and bitterness remain. To them it was inconceivable that a man could reach middle age, dabble in politics or journalism, take a stand on social or moral issues without, at some time or other, ^{unflinching} persecution or imprisonment - so much in practice in mid-twenties century Europe. I explained how things are

done in England, apologized for ~~my~~ deficiency in the particular aspect of social education and added that the Greek state was evidently intent upon making good this deficiency.

^{inform} - What are you in for? Before I answered, Stav interposed to ^{me} that I was much talked about by the other prisoners. ^{you} ~~Stav interposed before I had time to answer.~~ ^{They think you are a political bird. They cannot make you out. English, Greek, they don't know the centre of talk among the prisoners. Some say that you are a "war criminal" - we have a German captain here you knew, sentenced recently to twenty years imprisonment ... him over there". He pointed to a vigorous man in gaberdine overcoat, striding up and down the other side of the small square, ^{absorbed in conversation.} ~~on deep conversation with a companion.~~ He was the only who took ^{no} ^{no} notice of me as a newcomer.}

He ^{had been} ~~was~~ accused of being responsible for the death of ^{many} ~~twenty~~ thousands of ^{Greek} people during the German occupation. Stav added: "He has all his meals brought in from outside and has an oil-stove in his cell, ^{his own mattress, bed} ~~two sheets and a pillow~~ ^{his} ~~own~~ ^{on his bed} ~~mattress~~, and all the comforts. If you are one of them you will do well!

- I am not.

- Others say that ~~you~~ ... cherchez la femme!" Stav, ^{by the way} ~~incidental~~, is a man of wide culture and a linguist. The cryptic import of this statement remained unelucidated. "Someone told me, he continued, that you are a currency smuggler":

- I wish I were!

- No kidding!

- ~~It's~~ ^{own} nothing of the sort.

- What is it then?

High treason!

- High treason, ~~stahiro~~ - You don't say!
~~That's true!~~ I do say.
- ~~Not~~ What happened.
- That is all I know. When I alighted from the plane, I was arrested ^{at the airport shortly after I landed, I was} sent to the Security, appeared yesterday morning before the public prosecutor who sent me to jail pending release ~~on~~ ^{until} my trial which will take place in 18 ~~weeks~~ ^{days} time.
- ~~In what charge?~~ But why?
- ~~High treason.~~ ^{X see 5A X.}
- What does the indictment say? ^{Stow appeared very interested.}
- The indictment says that I ^{am an, emigre, living in New York I} ~~have~~ conspired with others in London, New York and Athens, ^{that} ~~to~~ injure the Greek state and detach territories from ~~the~~ ^{to} Greece and ~~to~~ ^{to} alienate Greek territories of the Greek Kingdom and overthrow the regime.
- ~~All that!~~ ^{nothing more & nothing less!}
- ~~But~~ You don't live in New York.
- I live in London.
- You are not Greek.
- I am of Greek origin, but a British subject.
- Were you ever in the British army?
- Yes, for nearly six years.
- You were not here ^{during} ~~after~~ the war?
- No. This ~~is~~ ^{was} my first visit to Athens - or more correctly to a part of Athens which happens to be a jail - since 1930.
- And you will appear before the Supreme Court?
- Yes.
- Your indictment is dated when?
- 1945.
- Don't worry " ~~that~~ said Stow. "It's nothing. They simply got

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~~somehow~~ by mistake - lot of mistakes happened here.

your name down, (the Special Court Martial ^{of Athens} issued a warrant for your ^{arrest} imprisonment, but it will be cleared up in no time. You will see. In a day or two you will be out of here ^{on bail} and in two or three weeks you will be free to leave the country.

His airy assurance infuriated me. "It's not the commonest thing in the world to come to a country and as soon as you ~~arrive~~ ^{land} to be accused of the direct of crimes and be flung in jail. If it is as you say why have they fixed my trial before the Supreme Court?"

- Don't worry Kyrie Angle, ^{answered Stav with suavity.} Of course there is going to be a trial. Of course you will have to have a lawyer and prepare to give battle in Court, of course you will have to be troubled to prepare your case but once before the Court you will see that everything will go smoothly. From what you told us, I guarantee that the public prosecutor ~~will ask~~ ^{and the judges will go through the motion of a trial} a few questions, the lawyer will be allowed to say a few words, perhaps they will call a witness or two, ^{allow the lawyer to say a few words and} ~~for some brief statements~~, then they will ^{stop} ~~complete~~ the trial and declare you ~~absolutely~~ ^{That's} innocent. ~~He~~ ^{what is going to happen.} was more than right in his prognosis.

It was an anti-climax. My drama, ^{all of a sudden was} ~~transformed into~~ a huge, grim joke. "In ~~two days~~ ^{in a day or two} you will be out of here - on bail". The spell was broken. I felt already a passing "quest" through the prison and before long I would have to say good-bye to these friendly people.

Stav, ^{incidentally} ~~was~~ ^{proved} absolutely right in his prognostications. It was quite a comfort to have this reassurance from him.

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For four years the Cyprus question had been headline news throughout the world. A bomb exploding in a Nicosia ^{back} alley, a British service-man ambushed in the streets, an EOKA man blown up in his hideout, a patriot hanged or a bishop ~~murdered~~ a group of boys or girls stoning a riot-squad were to morrow's news from Santiago to Osaka. Cyprus was the centre of the story, ~~was enacted~~ the arena where the ~~play~~ drama with ^{almost} ~~quite~~ an ancient Greek tragic pre-ordination was ^{being} played out, but not the whole story. There were some loose ends here and there and Greece only could provide help me find their counterparts and join them together. It was Field-Marshal Papagos who as premier of Greece first raised officially the question ^{of Cyprus} with the British Government and in the United and so ~~indirectly~~ precipitated events. It was premier ^{Constantine} Karamanlis who brought the question to a close by affixing his signature to the Zurich ^{Agreement} in February 1959. Therefore Athens had a lot to tell me. I was after facts and mood.

It was only a few weeks earlier that flying towards Greece I was pondering ~~over~~ ^{over} the violent twists of Greek history and trying to fathom out ^{their causes and effects} ~~why practically everything~~ ^{Most of} ~~happening in that land~~ ^{there} have either a symbolic or wide-world significance. It was an uneasy feeling. Somehow in Greece things don't always go in the direction they ^{appear to be} ~~are~~ going. Either they flash and disappear in blankness or proliferate and grow in all directions. This land is a self-fertilising womb of history that affects people well beyond the borders.

We were flying over the Straits of Otranto and approaching Corfu. In the distance, luminous in the afternoon sun, the snow-covered Grammos range of Northern Pindus, where nineteen years earlier the Greeks met, stopped and turned back Musso's attack. Over Southern England the British youth had already closed the gap in the sky and the world breathed with relief. ^{and was fortified with hope.} In the Pindus a new demonstration of valour was ^{transmitting} ~~opening out~~ ^{impulses of resolute} ~~visions of hope~~ to all captive people. Nine years later in the same place the second Greek civil war was brought to an end with the defeat of the rebels and the post-war chapter of Balkan disturbance which threaten wider conflagrations, was closed.

A few minutes later we were flying over Actium where Marc Antony saw his dreams of Empire shattered. A local battle, but Rome became a monarchy ^{as a result} and settled down to the long sterile twilight of entrenchment followed by decay. No sooner we skirted the Ambrakic Gulf and before the afternoon Tea was consumed we were over Lepanto, where in ~~1571~~ 1571 Christian Europe met and destroyed the fleet of the Ottoman Turk. It was simply a naval encounter which hardly disturbed the surface of events of the Time but historically it represents the apogee of Ottoman power. From then on contraction set in inescapably, remorselessly. ^{flying to the south of the Gulf of Corinth and} Before reaching Galamis where the Greeks ^{met} ~~defeated~~ defeated the fleet of ~~Xerxes~~ Persians in 480 B.C., and ~~opened~~ ^{preserved} preserved Greek freedom and opened the flood-gates of intellectual and artistic endeavour which ~~froulded~~ ^{froulded} the thought of mankind, we ~~had~~ ^{saw} on our left

Mount Parnassus. Early spring-snow lay thick down to the valley. Somewhere on its craggy ^{southern slope} sides lies Delphi, the omphalos (1) of the ancient Greeks, Apollo's shrine, where the Oracle dispensed its comforting amphibological statements to the anxious and the credulous. ^{In the 1930s} The Greek poet Angelos Sikelianos and his American wife Eva, planned, ~~to turn in the 1930's~~, to turn this ^{Delphi} place into a cultural centre of the world where free men could meet and particularly thinkers and intellectuals could meet and discuss their problems. They ~~did~~ coined the phrase "Delphic Spirit" and dreamed of ^{an} amphictyonia of human thought to save the world from war. In 1958 the Greek Government in response to this mood and perhaps to honour the poet, declared that it will be prepared to allow Delphi to become such a free international centre. May ^{it} not ^{spring} from this nebulous idea, spring the ^{urge} desire to find ways and means whereby the outstanding thinkers of the time can meet and allow their intellect to light the paths of humanity, or ^{to} warn mankind of the mortal perils encompassing its march. The most potent force in the world the human ^{mind} intellect, is divided ^{and sundered} by frontiers and political institutions ^{wrapped by the constrictive framework of} and is deprived of a common forum where it can ^{freely function} raise its voice ~~on behalf of man~~. Perhaps Delphi can become such a forum and Greece ^{where the intellect was first emancipated and the citizen first tasted} ~~where the intellect was first emancipated and the citizen first tasted~~ ^{freedom, man} ~~freedom, man~~ ^{emancipation} provide, at least, the historical setting for a new era of humanism. The soft, impalpable light playing upon the peaks of Mount Parnassus before the ~~entire~~ ^{entire}

1. Navel of the earth.

vista was clothed in darkness, appeared to have a spiritual quality. It was a line. It struggled and flickered, before going out. But ^{on the next day it} ~~to~~ ^{will} play again its symphony of hope on ^{stony peak} ~~stone~~ and valley.

All these ~~had not~~ historical facts - ^{Salamis, Actium, Lepanto} had not a typically Greek significance. Like the Athens of the 5th century B.C. they all had growing world significance. And yet others, Thermopylae for example or Arkadi ^{with} ~~the~~ the Cretans, ^{choosing} ~~preferred~~ to ~~be~~ blown ^{themselves} ~~up~~ by setting fire to their powder magazines than surrendered to the Turks, remained, despite ~~the~~ heroism, typical Greek incidents.

My thoughts turned to Cyprus where the imponderability of Greek history was once ^{again} ~~more~~ ^{replayed out} exemplified. The ~~struggle~~ ^{fight} which began in 1955 was to unite Cyprus with Greece. It had been the demand ^{and the} ~~of the~~ ^{desire of the} people for centuries. It ended ~~four years later~~ in an agreement that precludes Enosis in perpetuity and which imperceptibly but definitely alters the historical character of the island. A Hellenic island becomes a Helleno-Turkish island and an indirect charge ^{of which are to station troops in there.} ~~upon~~ Greece and Turkey. ~~Does~~ this represent a solution to the Cypriot problem or is it an unmitigated calamity? The answer from a broad world outlook, can only be - provided sanity and good-will prevail - that the ^{Cyprus settlement} ~~settlement~~ represents something new in international relations. ~~problems~~ It gives dignity and freedom to an island which till yesterday was a colonial dependency. It ~~places~~ ^{places} ~~an~~ ^{an} equal and ~~willing~~ responsibility, ^{willingly assumed,} upon Greece, Turkey and Britain and provides

for all three.

with a ^{geographical} ~~strategic~~ point of contact. It ~~plays a role to speak,~~ ^{makes them neighbours, and} ~~will~~ ^{will} from this contact, ~~will~~ ^{will} these spring fiction and discord or harmony and closer unity? Both alternatives are possible but statesmanship, ^{with doubtless} ~~should strive~~ ^{to achieve} the latter. The ~~Cyprus~~ ^{Agreement} ~~represents~~ ^{represents} a balance between the demands of a people for independence and freedom and the demands of our time for the interdependence of peoples and the widening of the areas of common ideals and common economic interests. It guarantees the sovereignty of the island and at the same time subordinates it, ~~without contributing~~ ^{without contributing} to the wider interests of all concerned - Cyprus, Greece, Turkey and Britain.

on Cyprus

To all intents and purposes
 This is the first practical political exercise in interdependence. Will the history and example of a Greek island become a pointer to new forms of international relations and presage concord and limitations of sovereignty among like-minded people as a first step - in the higher interests of European civilisation and of humanity?

With the Cyprus ^{settlement} ~~solution~~ events in the Eastern Mediterranean have been lifted from one groove and set into another. They may conceivably have their beneficent repercussions.

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First of May 1959. Good Friday of the Greek Orthodox calendar. Church bells peal from early morning, church bells peal at ^{rhythmically} ~~regular~~ intervals their solemn, sorrowful tribute to crucified Christ. All-day services at the church,

people standing ^{packed} ~~inside~~ ^{and} by the entrances, holding lighted candles and every now and then murmuring "amen" and crossing themselves. Microphones, from inside the big churches relay, to those ~~outside~~ ^{standing} outside or ^{to} passers ^{by} an endless stream of stirring, ~~travelling~~ ^{religious} hymns on the theme of crucifixion. It's the most solemn ~~religious~~ ^{religious} day of the year. In the evening a procession weaves itself through the streets with the Epitaphios (^(Holy Image or cloth embroidered with gold) ~~sepulchre of Christ~~) at the head, followed by dignitaries of the Church chanting ^{prayers} ~~prayers~~, leaders of the ~~states~~, detachments of the fighting services and countless people, everyone holding a lighted candle in his or her hands. They move slowly, almost fixedly, as if, ^{feelings, they are} ~~praying~~ their last tribute to the dying God. The sidewalks are full of people all ~~bearing~~ ^{bearing} and crossing themselves whilst the procession passes. The scene is moving. It has all the outward ^{grandeur} ~~trappings~~ of an Aeschylean choric ~~passage~~ is imbued with deep religious ~~for~~ sentiment and like the classical tragedy ^{of} it promotes, what Aristotle was fond of saying, catharsis.

Resurrection, relief and festivity would follow on the morrow and with it the ^{mass} slaughter of lambs which provide the ^{indispensable} ~~traditional~~ dinner for a Greek Easter.

I was already out of jail for a couple of days and like everyone else my first impulse was to visit the Acropolis. From Averoff to the Acropolis is not far, but to move from the one to the other in the space of a few hours and try to adjust myself to the world, ^{actual and symbolic} of limitless light - the Acropo-

his does something to the human spirit, it juxtaposes ^{vividly the} ~~the~~ ~~frail~~ ~~eternity~~ ~~and~~ ~~conscious~~ ~~modernity~~ of man - was a new ^{enduring} experience. It inverted the familiar marbles with new significance.

I chose Good Friday afternoon to visit the "Athenian Agora". ^{The mood was appropriate. Emotionally I was transported back two millennia.} In the company of a young lawyer whose knowledge of classical history and of the classics proved stimulating and ^{instructive} ~~very helpful to me~~, we examined the entire site. The excavations are not yet completed though the principal part of what ^{was} the Ancient Agora has been cleared. The ^{work} ~~excavations~~ has been carried ^{done} out by the "American School of Classical Studies at Athens" which also has restored the Stoa of Attalos - a magnificent, colonnaded, two-storey building ~~on the eastern side~~ ^{flanking the site} of the Agora, ^{housing} ~~housing~~ now all the archaeological finds unearthed during the excavation.

The Agora was the administrative, political and cultural centre of ^{ancient} Athens. Its few acres of ground, ^{literally} ~~nestling~~ on the lap of the Acropolis (~~site~~ ^{side} north of the Acropolis) will have their honoured place in the story of man as long as history persists. It was here that the word democracy ^{came} ~~came~~. ~~It was here that it~~ ^{it} was first asserted and put into practice that the individual has rights as well as obligations. Thus Pericles, defined it in his funeral oration ~~as preserved~~ by ~~the~~ Thucydides "We call our constitution a democracy because power does not rest in the hands of a minority but of the whole people. In our private disputes every one is equal before the law; but in placing a man before another in a position of responsibility in the state what counts with

us is not his membership of a particular class but the actual ability which the man himself possesses. No one, so long as he has the ability to be of service to the city, is kept out of office because of poverty". It was here, ~~that Socrates~~ ^{that Socrates} held some of his famous discussions with his devotees.

He was the first to question not only the interpretation of facts but ^{also the} ultimate verities. Conscious of man's obliquity he cut everybody down to size - he was against, what is now called, the "cult of personality". He put reason & discussion above prejudice and fanaticism. Athens had to kill him for it. Perhaps no other state would have allowed him to have lived that long. Despot and frightened rulers of every epoch have not a mortal fear - the intellect. Every ^{total or} closed system of society persecutes not so much those who do evil as those who dare think things out for themselves and express those thoughts.

Not far from the Agora is ^{It dominates the scene. To the west} Theseum. ~~It was pointed out to me that it was here that the bitterest battles we were jarred back into modern reality. It was here between ~~various~~ members of George Grivas' "Khi" (1) organization and ELAS (2) in the ^{Folk Place} battle of Athens in December 1944. I was jarred back into reality and the subject of my visit to Greece.~~ ^{It was a battle of no quarter. ~~took no quarter~~ Grivas was eventually rescued ^{I was to let} by British troops, which after ^{almost} a month of hard fighting ejected ELAS from Athens and made possible the subsequent Agreement of ~~Varkiza~~ Varkiza which put an end to the first civil war.}

Athenians still speak of these events as if they have happened yesterday. They ~~left an indelible~~ ^{scared themselves} mark on people's

- 1) The letter khi, X. in Greek stands for the unknown X.
- 2) The military arm of ELAS, mostly under the control of the communists.