

Foes of Greeks Use Mercenaries, Says Hub Man

**Pappas, Relief Chief,
Returns After Tour
of Front Lines**

The present struggle in Greece "is not Greek against Greek, but Greeks against a Communist gangster army of nationals of other countries, most of whom are mercenary soldiers recruited in other countries and paid by Communist groups outside of Greece," Thomas A. Pappas, Boston businessman and chairman of the Greek War Relief Committee, declared here last night.

Pappas returned to Boston yesterday from a seven-week tour of Greece and Europe in connection with his duties as chairman of the national Greek relief organization.

During his visit to Greece, Pappas said in a statement to the press, he inspected front-line regions and talked with dozens of prisoners taken by the Greek Government forces. One group of prisoners he met could neither speak nor understand Greek. They were nationals of other countries, he said.

Pappas also said he examined equipment captured recently from guerrilla units and was struck by the fact the guns and ammunition were new and of German and Russian make.

If borders of Albania and Bulgaria were closed, in accordance with the petition of the Greek Government to the U.N. Security Council, the Communist guerrillas, "deprived of outside help of money, arms and manpower, would collapse in short order," he continued.

Pappas visited King Paul and Queen Frederica, to whom he brought the greeting of the people of Massachusetts; Premier Tsaldaris and President Deomades; Minister of Co-Ordination, Stephan Stefanopoulos; Minister of Finance, Vasilios Stefanopoulos; Minister of National Economy, George Mavros; Vice President Sophocles Venezalos; Minister of Social Welfare, Konstantinos Karamanless; and, Greek Staff, Gen Kosmos.

Handwritten: Jan 10/2/49