

MESSAGE FORM

SERIAL NO.	ROUTING	PRIORITY
CHECK NO.	DATE	PRIORITY
FROM	MESSAGE REFERENCE NO.	
TO	ORIGINATING OFFICE	

PRIORITY [REDACTED] INFO ERAN HAMB DIR CITE [REDACTED] 028
 REF BONN 0286
 GREEK AMBASSADOR THOMAS YPSILANTIS STATED 2 OCT 1968
 RECOMMENDED TO GREEK GOVERNMENT NOT TO FILE SUIT EITHER
 OR GERMANY AGAINST ANY OF THREE PARTIES (MERTENS, HAMBURG
 REPEAT HAMBURG ECHO, DER SPIEGEL REPEAT DER SPIEGEL). ALTHOUGH
 KARAMANLIS INITIALLY AGREED, BONN GREEK EMBASSY SURPRISED
 SUDDENLY OF SUIT BY MINISTERIOR HARRIS. YPSILANTIS REAG
 GERMANY SAME ISSUES IN GERMANY COURTS IN MERTENS AND
 REPEAT HAMBURG ECHO DECIDE SUE GERMAN GOVERNMENT FOR LIES
 APPLICATIONS REGARDING HAMBURG ECHO REPEAT HAMBURG ECHO
 BY OFFICIAL GERMAN APOLOGY TO GREEK GOVERNMENT. YPSILANTIS
 SUCCESSFUL MERTENS SUIT POSSIBLE IF CASE BASED ON THAT PORTION
 IF MERTENS ACCUSATIONS WHICH HAS BASIS IN FACT. SPECIFICALLY
 THAT PORTION WHICH REFERS TO THE DEPOSITION OF EVDOKOULA TO WHOM
 SHE FALSELY STATED SHE SAW MERTENS ONLY TWICE. THIS STATEMENT OF
 EVDOKOULA WAS USED BY HARRIS IN A SPEECH BEFORE THE GREEK
 PARLIAMENT. HAMBURG ECHO REPEAT HAMBURG ECHO HAS ALREADY
 POSITION THAT IT RESERVES RIGHT TO SUE GERMAN GOVERNMENT.
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2. REGARDING HARRIS DECISIONS IN GREEK COURTS, YPSILANTIS AND GREEK EMBASSY LEGAL ADVISOR FNU KOKKINOPOULOS ARE OF OPINION THAT THERE ARE NO GERMAN LEGAL TECHNICALITIES WHICH CONTRAINDICATE OR EVEN BAR SUCH SUIT IN GERMAN COURTS. CONVERSELY, BOTH YPSILANTIS AND KOKKINOPOULOS STRESS THAT THERE IS NO DOUBT BUT THAT SUITS SHOULD HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN LOCUS OF PUBLICATION OF LIBELOUS STATEMENTS--I.E. GERMANY--PARTICULARLY SINCE HAMBURG REPEAT HAMBURG DOES NOT CIRCULATE IN GREECE AND MERTENS CANNOT COME TO GREECE HE RISKS ARREST ON ARRIVAL.

3. YPSILANTIS BELIEVES MERTENS SEEKS RESTORE REPUTATION AND IS READY EFFECT THIS THROUGH SERIES OF SUITS. HE FEARS MERTENS WILL FIND WAY ADJUDICATION OF ACCUSATIONS IN GERMANY CONSEQUENTLY ACHIEVING TWO TRIALS--ONE IN GREECE, THE OTHER IN GERMANY. IN TRIAL, POSSIBILITY EXISTS MERTENS WILL BRING IN FALSE WITNESSES RESULTING DAMAGE TO GREEK GOVERNMENT POSITION.

4. NOT PRECLUDED ALSO IS MERTENS' ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ A MERTENS IS SUING AGAINST THE GREEK GOVERNMENT AND GERMAN EMBASSY IN ATHENS FOR MISREPRESENTATION BASED ON FOLLOWING: IN 1946 MERTENS HAD VISITED GREECE WHO THEN CONSUL OFFICER ATTACHED TO GREEK MILITARY MISSION IN GERMANY ASKED YPSILANTIS WHETHER HE COULD VISIT GREECE. YPSILANTIS LATER INFORMED MERTENS THAT THREE SEPARATE INQUIRIES WHICH HE, YPSILANTIS, HAD SENT TO GREEK POLICE OFFICE REMAINED UNANSWERED. YPSILANTIS ASSUMED THERE WERE NO CHARGES PENDING IN GREECE AGAINST MERTENS. ALSO UNANSWERED WAS AN INQUIRY WHICH MERTENS DISPATCHED TO THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN ATHENS.

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5. YPSILANTIS FEARS THAT MERTENS HAS IN POSSESSION A PHOTOGRAPH OF EYDOXOULA, MAKRIIS AND HIMSELF (MERTENS) STANDING IN FRONT OF THE WHITE TOWER IN SALONIKA.

6. YPSILANTIS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT SCANDAL POTENTIAL OF TOUSIS' CONDUCT IN PAST TRIPS TO GERMANY. TOUSIS HAD BEEN ACCUSED BY HIS MISTRESS, A MARRIED WOMAN, ALLEGEDLY, TOUSIS ACCUSED BY FROM CERTAIN NOT IDENTIFIED OFFICIALS OF THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT THE PROMISE THAT HE WOULD BRUSH OUTSTANDING SUITS AGAINST CRIMINALS. YPSILANTIS BELIEVES MERTENS MAY HAVE OBTAINED EVIDENCE THEREOF PLUS WITNESSES WILLING TO TESTIFY TO THIS.

7. SOURCE: [REDACTED]

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