

THE GREEK WAR ACT 2636/1940 HAS NO BINDING TO NATIVE MUSLIM ARVANITES

Albanians call *Çamëri* (Chameria) the southern portion of Lower Albania. The Roman imperial designation of Epirus in the centuries I - IV CE is still in use. The latter originated from the Albanian (Shqip) geographical expression for this region, "Tokat E Pirit" (The Lands of Piri) and adding the Roman imperial suffix -us. The very ancient Arban town of Piri has its ruins near the village of Zhulat in Gjinokastra. The southern Lands of Piri were outlined for the first time as a state region of Greater Greece in 1913 under the Roman label of Epirus. The use from Greater Greece of the title "Epirus" and its claim that "Epirus is Greek" do not mean that "Greece" formed for the first time in history in the year 1830 becomes "ancient Greece".

In Shqip, Ar bana (northern idiom) = Ar bëra (southern idiom) = I made arable land. These two root sentences describe the fundamental deed of farmers at least 12'000 years ago. These two short sentences beget qualifying names which are essentially alike and a little different in thread: Arban = Arbër = Arbëresh = Arbëror = Arbanas = Arbanit = Arvanit = Arvaresh (Sardegna) = Arnaut (Ottoman Turkish) = Arnavut (Turkish, today) = Alban = Albanian (from foreigners) = Shqiptar = I-lir

Since the letter B in the language Katharevousa of Byzantine Church pronounces V, the qualifying name Arbanit changed to Arvanit. Based on religious cloth of belief, native Arvanites distinguish as Christian Orthodox and Muslim. Wrongly and deliberately implanted from anti-Albanian propaganda, Albanians perceive as *Çamë* (Chams) only Muslim native Arvanites of northwestern Greater Greece.

After the rebellion of Christian Orthodox Arvanites in 1821, the unsigned Entente League of empires of Great Britain, Russia and France formed on 3 February 1830, for the first time in history, a pious non-western principality named "Greece" with an area 1/6 of Greater Greece today. Betraying Europe and the West, they perceived "Greece" to be a state that would revive the Eastern Roman Empire that had ended to exist in 1453. Therefore, even today, a "Greek" citizen does not imply a person with nationality but a Christian Orthodox believer who uses the Byzantine Church idiom of Katharevousa adjusted for people, the Demotic language. Furthermore, that person has a name with Byzantine suffixes -os and -is and must hate all kinds of Muslims.

The Entente League received endorsement with the firms of 1907. Betraying Western Europe, the Entente League would magnify in 20th century further Greece and create three times Yugoslavia (Greater Serbia).

With the help of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, prominent Albanian scholars held an Assembly on 14-22 November 1908 in Manastir, where they agreed on the unified Albanian alphabet in Western letters. (The noble American couple Phineas and Violet Kennedy were present in the Assembly.)

In October 1912, at the urging of the Entente League, Greater Serbia, Greater Greece, Montenegro and Bulgaria ignited the First Balkan War for rushing with an increased appetite to capture as many Albanian lands left like Ottoman vilayets as they could. Whereas the Albanian lands were either under the Turkish Army or under the Serbian, Greek, Montenegrin, and Bulgarian armies, with the advice of Austria-Hungary, Albanian representatives managed to declare Albanian independence in Valona on 28 November 1912. Three months later, the Greek Army occupied for the first time Ioannina on 6 March 1913, and thus Chameria, which continues to be under occupation.

Violence, displacement, dissolution and forced conversion, looting of wealth and property, massacres and deportations abroad fell on Muslims, including Arvanites, whenever their region passed as a donation to Greece. Like in Greater Serbia (Yugoslavia), all local Arvanites in Greater Greece were banned from Albanian schools. An analogous Eastern genocide spread against Christian Orthodox believers in the stunted Ottoman Empire with the outbreak of WWI in 1914. As a result, most Ottoman inhabitants of the Christian Orthodox faith were either killed or deported to Greece by 1922.

The Paris Peace Conference took place from 18 January 1919 – 21 January 1920. At the advice of British Prime Minister David Lloyd George, who promised that a further enlargement of Greece would be recognized if it invades the Ottoman territory, the Greek Army landed in Smyrna (Izmir, today) on 15 May 1919 and attacked deep. Because the Ottoman Empire was in the last moments of agony, its representatives signed on 10 August 1920 the Treaty of Sèvres, near Paris, versus Britain, France, Italy, and Japan. The Treaty of Sèvres, which eventually turned off the Ottoman Empire, donated to France, Britain, Greater Greece, and Italy large territories in Anatolia. When Mustafa Kemal took command of the Turkish Army, and after military supplies arrived from Bolshevik Russia of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin (a German agent), the Turkish Army counterattacked in August 1922. The Greco-Turkish War ended on 11 October 1922 with the expulsion of the Greek Army from Anatolia. The

peace talks began in Lausanne, Switzerland, on 20 November 1922. The Treaty of Lausanne was signed by Britain, France, Italy, Greater Greece, Japan, and Romania on 24 July 1923. It recognized the formation of the Republic of Turkey within its present borders.

An Eastern-type agreement signed on 30 January 1923 as part of the forthcoming Treaty of Lausanne was the exchange of the remaining 1.2 million Christian Orthodox believers in Turkey with 400'000 Islamic believers existing in Greater Greece. The swap was involuntary, violent, chaotic, with countless losses of lives and deletion of citizenship from where they came. The native Muslim Arvanites, especially those in northwestern Greece (Chameria), suffered a lot in that population switch. Moreover, the Albanian government tried through the Organization of the League of Nations to separate the native Muslim Arvanites from the Islamic believers of other backgrounds in that exchange of populations.

With British help, a military coup d'état in Greater Greece restored King George II to power on 25 November 1935. On 13 April 1936, King George II appointed the Nazi-follower military officer Ioannis Metaxas as Prime Minister (www.metaxas-project.com). In turn, and with the King's signature, he established his Nazi rule on 4 August 1936 by dissolving the Assembly, banning political parties, and excluding the Constitution. Violence against native Muslim Arvanites escalated, and his government immediately put in place a complete ban on the Albanian language.

On 25 March, 2 and 6 April 1939, the Albanian King Zog I refused the Italian request to accept the merger of Albania with Italy. Then, World War II in Europe began on 7 April 1939 when the Italian Army invaded Albania and completed it on 11 April. Two days later, Britain and France declared themselves defenders of Greater Greece's independence. On 16 April, Albania dissolved as a political state by becoming part of the Italian Kingdom. On 3 June 1939, Italy evaporated the Albanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and foreign diplomats left Tirana. Britain officially accepted the annexation of Albania by Italy on 31 October 1939.

On the night of 28 October 1940, Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas turned down the Italian request to accept the entry of the Italian Army. (The day of 28 October, commemorating the rejection of Ioannis Metaxas, who had four years ruling Greece as a Nazi, www.metaxas-project.com, continues to be an official holiday in Greater Greece.) A few hours later, the Italian Army launched an offensive into Greece along 145 km of the Albanian-Greek border.

The Greek Army received all-encompassing military supplies from Britain, and its air force was British airplanes. Meanwhile, the British Military Intelligence had broken the code of German and Italian communications since April 1940. As a result, the British command knew without interruption in detail the condition and plans of the Italian Army. As a result, the Greek Army quickly withstood the Italian Army's assault, counterattacked, and did not stop at the Albanian-Greek border but continued and occupied half of the territory of southern Albania. The German Army coming from Greece would also invade Albania in September 1943.

With British advice, the Greek government prepared the War Act Nr. 2636, which King George II signed on 10 November 1940; (Figure 1). It defined Italy and Albania as adversary states, including their citizens except those of Greek origin. (Greece formed in 1830. So then, if some Himariots are Greeks, the question is when and why did they come to Himara after 1830?) The endorsed law had application since 28 October 1940.

Although the knowledge existed that Albania could not be offensive, the War Act Nr. 2636/1940 was a golden tool to continue the evictions and appropriations of enormous tangible and intangible assets of Albanians in Greece that had occurred since the declaration of Albanian independence. It defined how to act economically against enemy states and citizens. The economic and financial relations had to stop, whereas tangible and intangible assets should temporarily be separated from the owners, sequestered. It appointed the Greek government to use those tangible and intangible assets without losing the names of owners and the purposes of properties, that is, applying conservative confiscation. The monetary revenues from those assets should deposit into a particular account at the Bank of Greece.

The Endorsed Law 2636/1940 did not deal with Greek citizens, including native Muslim Arvanites. After defining Italy and dissolved Albania as enemy states, it had the force of an economic law for such cases and did not declare war on Italy and Albania. Meanwhile, deliberately or incompetently, the War Act 2636/1940 and native Muslim Arvanites have been planted in Albanian perception as "the Greek Law of War against Chams as well". Chameria did not become part of Albania even with the changes of borders during WWII. The native Muslim Arvanites, who are deliberately and erroneously called Chams and not Greek citizens in state relations, were uninterruptedly citizens of Greater Greece and suffered genocide in June 1944 and the following months.

The Greek Army had floundered 14 Divisions in the war front against the Italian Army in southern Albania. In comparison, it had two Divisions left on the Greek-Yugoslav border and four Divisions along the Greek-Bulgarian border. On 2 March 1941, the British Imperial Command landed in Greece the British 1st Armored Brigade, the New Zealand 2nd Division, and the Australian 6th Division, a total of 62'000 soldiers who made up the second echelon. On 6 April 1941, the German XII Army started the offensive from Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, and on 10 April entered Thessaloniki. On the same day, the British Expeditionary Force began the retreat by fighting. Within 20 April 1941, the Greek Divisions surrendered, and the German Command allowed the Greek soldiers and officers to return home with their light weapons, a mistake it would suffer later. The invasion of mainland Greece ended on 30 April 1941, costing the British Imperial Army 11'840 soldiers and the German Army 5000 soldiers. In the occupied Greater Greece, the German Army covered the region of southern Macedonia with the port of Thessaloniki, Athens with the port of Piraeus and some islands. The Bulgarian Army occupied the eastern sector. The Italian Army covered the whole other portion until its capitulation on 8 September 1943, when the German Army filled the vacuum. The Holocaust, with added excitement from Greek rulers, began implementation immediately after the invasion.

A portion of the surrendered servicemen and their priest-commissars immediately lined up in various formations in service of the invading forces. Meanwhile, the British Command recruited Christian Arvanites from Suli highlands in Chameria and formed in September 1941 an "army" composed of two regiments. Its name was the Hellenic National Democratic League (?!), led by Napoleon Zervas and priest-commissars. The British Special Operations Executive (SOE) paid 16 gold Sterling/month to Napoleon Zervas and two gold Sterling/month to each of his 2000 mercenaries. The gangs of the Hellenic National Democratic League (EDES, gr.) acted only in Chameria, not against the invading armies, only against the Slavic Communist military units and from the end of the war against the native Muslim Arvanites left in Chameria.

The British Royal Navy blocked the Greek shores immediately after the invasion, and as a result, not even a grain of wheat reached the population of Greater Greece. As a result, the Holodomor in the winter of late 1941 - early 1942 took the lives of 300'000 Greek citizens due to famine moreover in winter conditions.

Another portion of surrendered soldiers and reservists provided human resources to the Greek Communist Party to launch the Greek People's Liberation Army (ELAS, gr.) in June 1942. Since its power grew, the Greek government and German Command formed with 22'000 former soldiers and priest-commissar in April 1943 the Security Battalions (Evzonoï, gr.; today they constitute the Presidential Guard). They fought against ELAS and committed all kinds of crimes.

After the surrender of the Italian Army on 8 September 1943, the German Army filled the ex-Italian sectors. It informed the population that for a killed German soldier, it would shoot about ten inhabitants. On 24 September 1943, ELAS partisans killed six German soldiers who were sunbathing on the Paramithia Stairs. Keeping with its oath, the German Army shot 49 inhabitants of Paramithia five days after the event.

In May 1944, ELAS formed with local Muslim Arvanites in Chameria the IV Battalion "Ali Demi" as part of its XV Regiment. On 27 June 1944, under the guidance of hidden British SOE Military Mission, informing the existing German Army and not being hindered by it, the XVI Regiment of EDES began the genocidal massacre against native Muslim Arvanites of Paramithia. It followed with killings, deportations, obliterations, and burnings in Parga on 28 July 1944, in Filat, Spatar and other places on 23 September 1944. Disappointed that mosques did not give salvation, a fraction of terrified Muslim Arvanites took the roads on foot to Albania. The EDES gangs locked up the rest, primarily children, women, the elderly, in the Paramithia prison. The prison was exterminating because seven or eight people died per day in its inhuman conditions.

Ordered to prepare for withdrawal on 26 August 1944, the German Army-Group E began its retreat from Greece on 3 October 1944. After entered Albania, its western rear units left Saranda on 10 October 1944. The last rearguard passed the Greek-Macedonian border on the night of 1/2 November 1944. The British Army arrived in Chameria in November 1944. It used its trucks to load the native Muslim Arvanites who had survived in Paramithia prison and sent them to the seaport of Igoumenitsa. There, the British Army loaded them on small boats and dropped them in Saranda, Albania.

In December 1944, ELAS Brigades smashed EDES bands, and the British ships carried their fragments to Corfu island. Tempted, native Muslim Arvanites from Filati returned to their homes in January 1945. In Corfu, on 15 February 1945, the British command dissolved EDES and enlisted its mercenaries in the National Guard units it had formed for the Greek government. On 15 March 1945, National Guard units with former EDES bandits attacked and massacred anyone they found in Filat. Few were those who ran and arrived alive in Albania.

Thousands of native Muslim Arvanites got killed, as many lost their lives along the expulsion routes, and tens of thousands got expelled. Estates and houses got burned or destroyed, and everything of value got looted. In addition to living evidence, e.g., from Sali Bollati, it is enough to read the diary books "Apple of Discord" (1948) and "Something Ventured" (1982) by the Head of British SOE Mission in Chameria, Colonel Christopher Montague Woodhouse, to touch the truth. For example, one of his statements on 16 October 1945, with archive citation FO 371/48094/18138, reads: "... Zervas, encouraged by the Allied Mission under myself, chased them [Chams] out of their homes in 1944 in order to facilitate operations against the enemy..."

The Yugoslav communist forces, the Slavic Communist forces in Albania, and EDES forces in Chameria were created, supplied, armed, and meticulously led by British Command in Cairo, Egypt, until September 1943 and after in Bari, Italy. (For profound insight, please refer to the book "The Nation-Free Recipe".) Following the Entente League's instruction, the British agent named Enver Hoxha did not order any Slavic Communist partisan unit to prevent the genocide against the native Muslim Arvanites in Chameria. Even the Slavic Communist force of ELAS, though it had seven Brigades in Chameria, did not prevent the massacres and expulsions carried out by EDES bands.

On 13 October 1944, three British Brigades landed in Athens while most of Greater Greece was in the hands of Slavic Communist forces. On 3 December 1944, in Athens, British soldiers and ex-soldiers of the Security Battalions, now as governmental police, fired on a massive crowd of supporters of Slavic Communist forces and killed at least 28 persons. In the aftermath, a war with the use of artillery, tanks and planes ignited Athens. For reinforcement, the British Command landed the 4th Indian Infantry Division and, after 37 days, the Slavic Communist forces left Athens. An international civil war engulfed all Greater Greece and its population until 16 October 1949. It ended with the defeat and expulsion of Slavic Communist forces, named the Democratic Army of Greece (?!). The Greek Kingdom restarted, and Greece would be declared a Republic for the third time only on 8 December 1974.

In 1947, Italy and Greece signed the Treaty of Friendship, in which Greater Greece no longer recognized Italy as an enemy country. Their economic relations began on 4 May 1955. The project of the Entente League to create the Balkan Communist Federation by dissolving Albania in Yugoslavia broke down in 1948. And, since the end of the International Civil War in Greece looked clear, the Greek government published on 13 May 1949 in its government newspaper the Endorsed Law 1138/1949. The latter conditioned that if a country was called a non-enemy, the government and the King should pass a new law and publish it in the government newspaper.

Under the Slavic Communist regime, Albania was a closed country and had no diplomatic relations with Greater Greece until 7 May 1971. That is, deliberately, the exiled native Muslim Arvanites got prevented from returning home. In addition, the crackling of broken Albanian tangible and intangible assets in Greater Greece had no political ears for hearing. By the end of 1952, 18'622 native Muslim Arvanites were residing in Albania after deportation from Chameria (Greece), who still had refugee status with Greek citizenship. The Law Nr. 1654 dated 19 April 1953 of the Albanian state under Slavic Communist regime granted Albanian citizenship by force, without exception, and knowing that Greece had not revoked their citizenship. That is, their Greek citizenship was unilaterally covered, and at the same time, they became "enemy citizens" according to Greek War Act 2636/1940. Following the instruction to dissolve them and detach from their origin, the Slavic Communist government in Albania undertook in the years 1946-1973 a campaign of propaganda, imprisonments, shootings, and family deportations against the native Muslim Arvanites expelled from Greece.

The War Diaries of German High Command of the Armed Forces (Kriegstagebuch des Oberkommandos der Wehrmacht, 1940-1945) are a series in eight volumes compiled in 1961-1965 by a team of historians led by Percy Ernst Schramm. There are no mentions of Chams or local Muslim Arvanites collaborating with the invading armies in northwestern Greece. Meanwhile, there are described, for example, the agreements for not fighting with Napoleon Zerva. Nevertheless, his bandits carried out, on orders, massacres and deportations of native Muslim Arvanites in June-September 1944 and March 1945. The latter both were among the last Muslims left in Byzantine Greater Greece and supported ELAS led by the Communist Party of Greece. Even if some local Muslim Arvanites collaborated with the occupying forces, their number or value was insignificant. They were always either under the orders of the central government in Athens or used in operations in Albania. Moreover, their deeds cannot even compare to the number and crimes of Security Battalions or other Greek government forces or the 300'000 deaths from the Holodomor caused by the British Royal Navy in the winter of 1941/1942. If men and the entire population had been collaborators of invaders, then the command of the German Army would have prevented the EDES bands from carrying out massacres, deportations, and imprisonments in June-October 1944.

The Greek War Act 2636/1940, the Greek Ministry of Economy's decision 14882/1947 and the Greek Ministry of Finance's decision 3574/1947, as well the Greek Endorsed Law 4506/1966 excluded Albanian citizens of Greek origin from the influence of the Greek War Act 2636/1940. Consequently, Muslim Arvanites who are native in Greece, having Greek origin, when they became Albanian citizens under Albanian Law 1654/1953, were excluded from the influence of the Greek War Act 2636/1940. That is, their tangible and intangible assets are in place in Greece. The municipal registers in Greece are in archives, and the Greek citizenship for native Muslim Arvanites has not been revoked (Figure 2). When they got deported, they arrived in Albania only in body clothes. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the Albanian government to work with the Greek government to pave the way for them to return and get their documents, including the Greek passport. For the obstructing net to fall at least on one side and so open the way, it is enough for the Albanian state to issue a law that invalidates its Law 1654/1953. It so returns only to the names of Muslim Arvanites in the relevant list the status of refugees with original Greek citizenship. The adjustment does not affect the current citizenships (passports) of the heirs and their families.

With Britain and France as mediators, the Greek-Albanian diplomatic relations deferred until 7 May 1971. The mediators took care not to exist a citation for the Endorsed Law 2636/1940 in Greater Greece and not a voice for native Muslim Arvanites deported to Albania. On 28 August 1987, the Greek government officially recognized Albania as a non-enemy country. Albania and Greece signed on 26 March 1996 the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, Good Neighborhood and Security. The Treaty entered into force on 4 February 1998 after passing the steps of the Parliaments and Presidents of both countries. The Treaty recognizes both states, and bilateral relations between Greece and Albania are complete. In addition, Article 15 of the Treaty requires removing legal obstacles for the citizens of one side to enjoy the assets in the other side's territory. Yet, the annulment of War Act 2636/1940 has not become an Endorsed Law published in the Greek government newspaper.

The reason is that the value of Albanian assets plundered in Greater Greece before and in November 1940, together with the value that they have produced from utilization (as compound interest), and that must return, is immense. The Albanian assets that looted in November 1940 were hotels, real estate, restaurants, various companies, financial enterprises, lands, agricultural land, forests, pastures, meadows, pensions, saving accounts in banks, etc. Some examples, excluding the added value produced by utilization, are given below:

(1) Hasan Prishtina's villa at the address Vasilisis Olgas 32, Thessaloniki, costs today at least four million Euros. In the meantime, the Albanian state has been paying rent for its Consulate General in Thessaloniki since 1999.

(2) The Albanian state spent 2.5 million Euros in 2002 for the house of the Albanian Embassy in Athens, while 6.3 km away in Vasilisis Sofias Street there is the building of former Albanian Legation robbed by War Act 2636/1940 and which the Greek government continues to exploit.

(3) Referring to the book "The Last War" by Mentor Nazarko, the Albanian lands were forcibly confiscated by "agrarian reforms" since the endorsement of independent Albania in July 1913 until November 1940 comprises 350'000 hectares. Based on a calculation made in the Albanian Parliament on 25 June 1925, the taxes from the use of those 350'000 ha in 1913-1940 unpaid to the Albanian state amount to 456 million gold francs worth of 1940. And the lost revenues as taxes in the years 1941-2021 are $(2021-1941) * 456 \text{ million} / (1940-1913) = 1351 \text{ million gold francs worth of 1940}$.

(4) There are 260'000 other hectares of land acquired by the War Act 2636/1940. Taxes from the use of this land area for the years 1941-2021 unpaid to the Albanian state are $(2021-1941) * 456 \text{ million} * (260'000 / 350'000) / (1940-1913) = 1003 \text{ million gold francs worth of 1940}$.

One gold franc = 0.29025 grams of pure gold. As of 11 January 2021, the price of gold is 59.56 US \$/gram and 1 Euro = 1.22 US \$. Then, the above values together are $(456 + 1351 + 1003 = 2810 \text{ million gold francs}) * 0.29025 * 59.56 / 1.22 = 39'817 \text{ million Euros today} = 39.817 \text{ billion Euros today}$.

Referring to the book "The Last War" by Mentor Nazarko, the price of those $350'000 + 260'000 = 610'000$ ha of land was 203 million gold francs in 1941. Taking an average land price today of 22 Euro/m² and 1 ha = 10'000 m², then the value of 610'000 ha is $610'000 * 10'000 * 20 = 134.2 \text{ billion Euros today}$. In total, the value of land and taxes is worth 174 billion Euros today.

(5) The tangible and intangible assets of Vangjel Zhapa in the century XIX in Romania and Greece were extraordinary. On 30 November 1860, he bequeathed a large monetary fortune for his kin in Greater Labova, Gjinokastrë, Albania. He asked the inheritance commission in Athens to make the donations consistent with his will after the death of his cousin Constantine, who died in 1892. However, the Greek War Act 2636/1940 further prevented the implementation of his testament and legal inheritances for his kin. In 1955, the Tirana government

made a fruitless clumsy attempt to withdraw to Albania the 800 million US\$ (6.36 billion Euros today) that Vangel Zhapa had left in custody in the Orthodox Christian Patriarchate in Istanbul and frozen by the Turkish government temporarily until his heirs came out.

The above values are detached from the value that Greater Greece must pay as compensation to Albania for the damages and massacres of its Army during the Balkan Wars, World War I, in November 1940 - April 1941 and August 1949. (The trial in Albania for the events of the year 1997 has not yet taken place to reveal similar details.)

And these are separate from the value of plundered properties plus their added value (as compound interest), which belongs to native Muslim Arvanites deported to Albania in 1944-1945.

In summary, the whole of Greece constitutes the debt (liability) to Albania.



Figure 1. The original copy of the Greek Government Newspaper having the War Act 2636/1940.

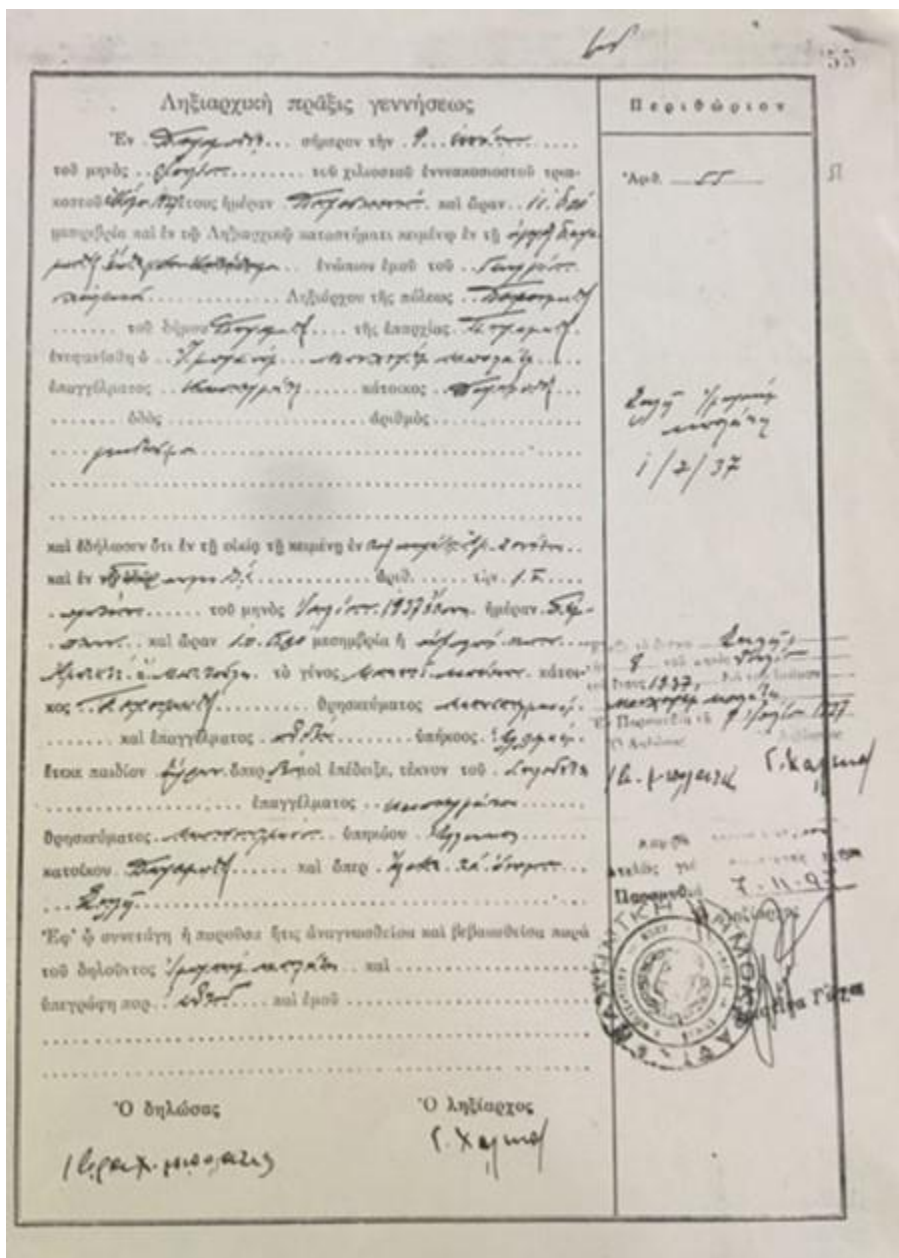


Figure 2. Sali Bollati received this Birth Certificate from the Civil Registry Office in Igioumenitsa, Greece, on 21 April 1998. The accompanying letter stated that he was a Greek citizen.