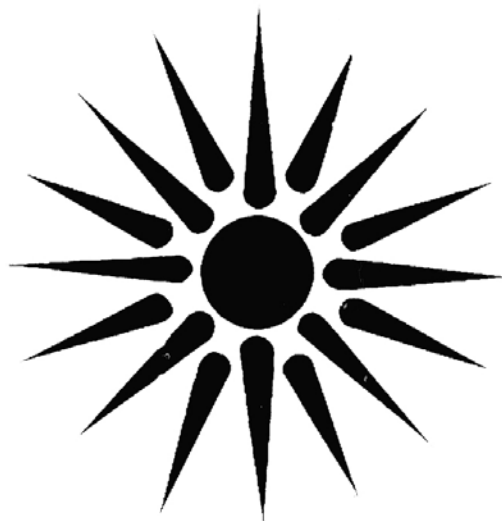


*Come take a Ride in
Tito's
Time Machine*



A Collection of Essays

**By
Risto Stefov**

Come take a Ride in Tito's Time Machine

A Collection of Essays

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e-book edition

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Index

Index	3
Preface	4
Introduction.....	5
Essay 1 – According to Kristina X	10
Essay 2 – Show of Patriotism	16
Essay 3 – Greek betrays Delchev	21
Essay 4 – Mischief is my middle name	26
Essay 5 – In the Balkans.....	30
Essay 6 – Macedonia is for Republic	35
Essay 7 – GREECE: MADE IN GERMANY	42
Essay 8 - Macedonian League	47
Essay 9 - Macedonians Executed	54
Essay 10 - Contested Landscapes	59
Essay 11 – Greece Executes Macedonians.....	63
Essay 12 – GREEKS BETRAY MACEDONIANS	68
Essay 13 – MASS MEETING OF MACEDONIANS	72
Essay 14 – Macedonians burned to death.....	76
Essay 15 – Insurgents take oath.....	80
Essay 16 – Fear of a Balkan War.....	85
Essay 17 – Macedonian Leaders Murdered.....	90
Conclusion	97

Preface

Before major libraries started digging up old newspapers, scanning and digitizing them and making them available online and accessible from the internet, the Greeks had us convinced that Macedonians did not exist; they had all died off a long time ago. But when we pointed out that there are people today who call themselves Macedonians and showed them examples, they brushed that off and said those people were not “real” Macedonians but “Slavs.” But when we asked for an explanation as to how they become Macedonians, the Greeks explained that “Tito created them when he created the People’s Republic of Macedonia.” And what purpose would Tito have to create these Macedonians, we asked? Most Greeks believed that “Tito created these Macedonians in order to lay claim to Greek-Macedonia!” You know, the one that the Greeks “liberated” in 1913.

The Greeks had convinced the entire world that “Macedonians did not exist” and that “the Modern Macedonians were created by Tito.” To this day I get e-mails from Greeks attesting to this “fact!”

But when old newspapers, especially major dailies from the late 1800’s and early 1900’s were made available on the internet, we began to see that Macedonians did exist even before Tito’s time. This was indeed a puzzling problem, especially if we were to believe both the Greeks who tell no lies and all the major daily English language newspapers which reported on the Macedonians even before Tito was born.

Faced with this dilemma a number of us got together and after many hours of brainstorming, thanks to TrueMacedonian, we found our answer.

The only thing that explained how Tito could have created the Modern Macedonians as per Greek testimonies and how Macedonians existed before his time, as documented by all those newspapers, was that “Tito must have had a time machine and went back in time to create the Macedonians.”

Like today’s major dailies that report on world events on a daily basis so did the dailies of a century or so ago. The newspapers were reporting on all sorts of activities in the Balkans and in Macedonia, including on the Macedonians preparing and executing the 1903 Macedonian National Ilinden Uprising against the Ottoman Empire.

Enjoy the essays.

Introduction

If we “must” believe that Josip Broz Tito, the Yugoslav dictator, along with the Communists, “invented” the Macedonians then we must also believe that Tito possessed a “Time Machine” because in this series of essays we will show you that the Macedonians existed way before Tito’s time.

Almost every e-mail I have received from Greeks in the last half a dozen years or so mentions the name “Tito” as the “creator” of the Macedonian ethnic identity. “You are not Macedonians, you are Slavs and you came to the Balkans in the 6th century AD” seems to be the standard Greek definition of a Modern Macedonian. But if we are all Slavs and came to the Balkans in the 6th century AD then how did we become Macedonians? Well the Greeks have a ready answer for that too. They say “Tito created the Macedonian ethnic identity”.

Greeks, it seems, feel very uncomfortable when a question pops up for which they have no ready made answers but on the question of “How did the Macedonians become Macedonians?” they are pretty sure Tito created them.

Well, if we “must” believe that “Tito” created the Macedonians then we must also believe that Tito possessed a “Time Machine” because in this series of essays we will show you that the Macedonians existed way before Tito’s time.

“Greek propagandists and Greek government officials have brainwashed their Greek citizens into believing that Josip Broz Tito, the Yugoslav dictator, along with the Communists, ‘invented’ the Macedonians. The Bulgarians too, like the Greeks, are in denial when it comes to the existence of a Macedonian nation.” (TrueMacedonian)

TrueMacedonian knows Tito’s secret because he along with Marty and Doc accompanied Tito on his voyages back in time watching Tito “create” these Macedonians. But unbeknownst to them I too accompanied Tito, Marty, Doc and TrueMacedonian watching things unfold as I hid in the back seat of the Delorean, recording events as they unfolded.

So why don’t we all take a trip back in time and let’s see exactly when and where Tito landed and how he “invented” these Macedonians.

One puzzling question however. “What identity were these people before Tito ‘made’ them into Macedonians”? I guess we will have to turn to the Greeks for that answer!

The best trick Tito ever pulled was to assemble his best scientists to create his time machine. Upon being pushed to 88 miles per hour his time machine broke the time barrier and disappeared back into the future. Tito's first trip was to 1985 where he acquired a Yugo engine for his Delorian. From then on he traveled under his own power and went wherever he wanted just by setting the time machine's time dial. I snuck-up and boarded the Delorian while it was briefly visiting my neck of the woods on January 1st, 2000. My first ride was to 1907 when Tito went to Pennsylvania to do some dirty deeds. (Story inspired by TrueMacedonian)

After landing in Pennsylvania Tito took a trip to the Statistics office and ordered the statistician to enter the following;

“Iron and Steel Supplement – Labor...Macedonians...17” (“Annual Report of the Secretary of Internal Affairs of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania”, Part III, Industrial Statistics, Vol. XXXV, 1907, page 73)

By the way registered on page 73 you will also find Greeks...159 and Slavish...3,408.

“Labor Supplements – Sole and Harness Leather...Macedonians...43” (“Annual Report of the Secretary of Internal Affairs of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania”, Part III, Industrial Statistics, Vol. XXXV, 1907, page 191)

Registered on page 191 you will also find Greeks...20 and Slavonians...285.

“Labor Supplements – Tanning Extracts...Macedonians...3” (“Annual Report of the Secretary of Internal Affairs of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania”, Part III, Industrial Statistics, Vol. XXXV, 1907, page 247)

For more details on the above and for more of Tito's dirty deeds please click on the following link:

<http://www.maknews.com/forum/macedonian-history/come-take-a-ride-on-tito-s-time-machine-t12823.html>

If you visited the link above you would have seen Tito's best work, convincing the statistics office in 1907 to record 17 Macedonians working with iron and steel, 43 Macedonians working with sole and harness leather and 3 Macedonians working with tanning extracts. It was quite an accomplishment for Tito to create 63 Macedonians just like that!

After visiting Pennsylvania, Tito decided to jump back to the 19th century to add some Macedonians in an English-Arabic dictionary. He knocked off a few shots of rakia for courage and then bribed the dictionary author with some more rakia. When the author was drunk

and passed out Tito ordered TrueMacedonian to modify the dictionary as follows:

“Saklabah, The Sclavonians, supposed by the Arabians to be descended from Seclab, a son of Japhet. Under this name, however, the Mahometans comprehend often the Servians, Bulgarians, Moesians, Thracians, Albanians, Macedonians and the northern parts of Greece.” (“An English Arabic Dictionary” by Josiph Catafago, 1858, page 131)

Not satisfied with modifying just some statistics and one definition in a dictionary, Tito figured it was time to influence some newspapers so he set the Delorian time dial to the year 1897. February 6th, 1897 to be exact. Here Tito influenced the New York Times to write the following:

“Mr. Gladstone and the Balkan Confederation. – The Byron Society, which is actively engaged in disseminating appeals in Greece and Bulgaria to help the cause of the Macedonians, has communicated to its agents a letter from Mr. Gladstone for distribution in the vernacular in South-Eastern Europe. The Society aims at inducing the Greek, Servian and Bulgarian governments to come to an early agreement in reference to the Macedonian question. The letter is as follows: - ‘Hawarden Castle Jan. 19, 1897. Dear, Sir, the hopelessness of the Turkish Government should make me witness with delight its being swept out of the countries which it tortures. Next to the Ottoman Government nothing can be more deplorable and blameworthy than jealousies between Greek and Slav and plans by the states already existing for appropriating other territory. Why not Macedonia for the Macedonians as well as Bulgaria for the Bulgarians and Servia for the Servians? And if they are small and weak, let them bind themselves together for defense, so that they may not be scattered by others, either great or small, which would probably be the effect of their quarreling among themselves. Your very faithful, W. E. Gladstone.’” (“New York Times”, February 6th, 1897).

Bravo Tito, I don’t know exactly how you did it but you convinced a British Prime Minister to say “Macedonia for the Macedonians” which became a rallying cry for the Macedonians before your time!

Still not satisfied that enough was done, Tito set the Delorian time dial to August 11, 1900. Here he convinced a reader to write the following to the New York Times Editor;

“Christians in Turkey

To the Editor of the New York Times:

The writer read with much interest a letter in THE TIMES of to-day relating to the Macedonian disturbances. It has been said that ‘The worst Christian Government is better than the best Muslim Government’, but Mr. Burman, the writer of the letter in question, apparently thinks Turkish rule good enough in its way or feels that international justice demands that Turkey in Europe be preserved at any price. He speaks of ‘acts of retribution on the part of their (the Macedonians’) Turkish masters.’ As the Turks have long referred to the Christians in their dominions as ‘dogs’ the term is perhaps a very apt one.

K. C. Bataille, Orange N. J., August 11, 1900.”

By now everyone was getting a little tired and Tito decided that they should return back to the future and retire for the day. “We will do this again tomorrow” Tito told the others, “be here promptly at 8 AM”. Just as everyone was busy unpacking their things, I slipped into the trunk of the Delorian through the hidden passage and waited for things to get quiet. When we got back to our time and everyone had left, I opened the Delorian’s trunk through the secret latch inside and I too retired for the day.

Oh, I forgot to tell you. When everyone was busy keeping the “dictionary guy” company and drinking rakia, I borrowed the Delorian for a brief while and took a trip to London to January 12, 1814 where I convinced Reverend Hughes to write the following;

“The Serai stands in an open space, near the south-east corner of the Castron: it is a vast irregular pile of buildings... The great hall of this building was crowded with attendants of every variety in costumes, from red-shawled Macedonians and turbaned Osmanli, to the Albanian with his shaggy white capote, and the Greek archon in robes of ermine and enormous calpac.” (“Travels in Sicily Greece and Albania” by Rev. Thos. Smart Hughes, 1820, page 472).

By setting the return time dial to seconds after I left for London, I was able to spend considerable time in London without Tito discovering his Delorian was missing. I just hope he doesn’t keep track of the “time mileage”.

And now I will leave you with this; “Since the Christian era, as we have said, a successive downpour of foreigners from the north into Greece has ensued. In the sixth century came the Avars and the Slavs, bringing death and disaster. A more potent and lasting influence upon the country was probably produced by the slower and more peaceful infiltration of the Slavs into Thessaly and Epirus from the end of the seventh century onward. A result of this is that Slavic place-names to-

day occur all over the Peloponnesus in the open country where settlements could readily be made. The most important immigration of all is probably that of the Albanians, who, from the thirteenth century until the advent of the Turks, incessantly overran the land.” (“The Races of Europe A Sociological Study”, by William Z. Ripley, Ph.D., 1910, page 408)

Essay 1 – According to Kristina X

Now thanks to Kristina X for supplying us with the material for this episode, we will be boarding the Delorean at promptly 8 AM tomorrow morning but if I am going to make it unseen, I have to be there earlier and hope that no one sits in the back seat.

TrueMacedonian, anxious to see what happens next, arrived first and paced back and forth with a bit of nervousness while waiting for the others. Marty and Doc, escorting Tito who looked like he had a bit (actually a lot) of a hangover, arrived next and quickly boarded the Delorean. Thankfully no one sat in the back seat and as Tito fiddled with the time machine knobs, I slipped from the trunk through the hidden door into the back seat of the Delorean unseen. I hear Tito say, “We are going to Wednesday October 9th, 1901 to see a certain newspaper editor.” Then the next day, Thursday October 10th, 1901, the following article, which I will quote in part, appeared in the Richmond Dispatcher;

“MISS STONE CASE – AGAIN

In several quarters it has been intimated that the abduction of Miss Stone, the American missionary, was a political as well as a financial proceeding. That is to say, the brigands acted in connection with or at the instigation of the Macedonian committee....

Aforetime, abductions have been traced to the Macedonian committee and while there is no positive proof that the organization was connected with the kidnapers of Miss Stone, it is possible such was the case...” (Richmond Dispatcher, Thursday October 10th, 1901)

Not exactly satisfied with how this story panned out, Tito selected February 23rd, 1903 on his dial and said, “We are now going to San Francisco to visit another certain newspaper editor.” The next day, Tuesday February 24th, 1903, the following article, which I will quote in part, appeared in The San Francisco Call;

“THE CZAR AND THE KAISER

While reporting from various capitals in Europe concerning the Macedonian muddle continues to be contradictory and confusing, it is becoming more and more evident that the only unknown factors in this problem are the Czar and the Kaiser...

In the meantime while speculation halts at the problem of an alliance between the Kaiser and the Czar on the Macedonian problem, the force of circumstance is steadily tending towards a point where they

will be compelled to play their hands out. The Macedonians and the Bulgarians appear resolved to put an end to diplomacy in the closet, and force an open recognition of their claims. The Sultan on the other hand, appears to be as ready for war, as any of them. He has a good army, well equipped, and is ready to fight without pay. He whipped the Greeks very easily and he believes he can whip the Bulgarians and the Macedonians with an equal facility. In that belief he is doubtless right, but the power that left Greece at his mercy will not be so indifferent toward Macedonia..." (The San Francisco Call, Tuesday February 24th, 1903)

Again unsatisfied with how this story panned out, Tito decided that we should remain in San Francisco but selected September 20th, 1903 as our next time destination. This time we will do it right he said, as he sipped a slug of rakia from his velvet pocket bottle, without offering any to TrueMacedonian, Doc or Marty. Crouched up in the back seat I too could have used a slug of rakia myself but as a stowaway I thought I had best keep to myself.

"We are here" Tito announced "so let's pay a little visit to this certain editor at his home. You know, it's Sunday today and he should be coming home from church any time now, so let's surprise him." With those words everyone left the Delorean and gave me a chance to get out and stretch my legs.

A few hours later they were back, and as usual, Tito appeared to be drunk and very vocal. No one else was talkative so I figured their trek did not go well.

Then the next day, Monday, September 21st, 1903, the following article, which I will quote in part, appeared in The San Francisco Call;

"BESIEGED MELNIK'S GARRISON IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION

Handfuls of Turks continue to hold out against fifteen hundred Macedonian insurgents while reinforcements are hastening to prevent the capture of the town.

Famous retreat whence comes news of the progress of the siege of Melnik by Macedonians, and the German ambassador to the court of the Turkish Sultan..." (The San Francisco Call, Monday, September 21st, 1903)

While Tito and the others were out, I decided to do some "time traveling" on my own and upon landing in Cambridge Massachusetts on April 19, 1919, I "hypnotized" V. K. Sugareff to write the following;

Letters to the Editor

A FREE MACEDONIA

A Government Like Switzerland's Being Urged Upon the Paris Conference

By V.K. Sugareff.

Cambridge, Mass., April 19, 1919.

To the Editor of The New York Times:

I beg your indulgence to insert a few remarks in the columns of your paper in connection with your editorial article of last Thursday's Times on "A Macedonian solution."

Those of us, Macedonians, whose families have been scattered to the four winds as a result of the political unrest in the country, are quite convinced that the Macedonian question has not been presented to the American public in the light of an untainted justice. Should Macedonia be subjected to another pre-war régime, it will be a bitter disappointment to hundreds of us who donned the khaki to defend the honor of the United States and her broad principles which the Allies ultimately adopted. May I not, then, present some gleanings which I have gathered at the feet of my professors here at Harvard, some of whom have gone to Paris to advise the President in these matters?

The fact that nothing has been said publicly at the Peace Conference concerning the future fate of Macedonia is in itself a confession of the almost insurmountable difficulties involved in the so-called "Macedonian Question." It is a question open to no dispute that an amicable solution of the Macedonian problem will be the only stable basis for a lasting peace in the Balkans. But how can the Macedonian question be settled so as to guarantee the future tranquility of the Balkans? Students of Balkan politics have suggested three methods for settling this all-important problem.

The first method is repartition of Macedonia on the basis of the Bulgaro-Serbian treaty of 1912. While it provides the basis for negotiation between Bulgaria and Serbia, yet this method does not promise a favorable solution of the problem, for it opens no avenues for negotiation between Bulgaria and Greece, and between Bulgaria and Albania, the boundaries of which will certainly have to be rectified. The question of Thrace is also excluded from this treaty, and many other technical points will make a solution according to this method well-nigh an impossible undertaking.

The second method provides that the principle of self-determination should be applied to Macedonia. This method is in accord with President Wilson's program, but few will doubt that the result will be overwhelmingly in favor of Bulgaria. Besides, it would have to be conducted under the supervision of the European powers in order to insure the people against an outside pressure which will certainly be used by the contending parties. In other words, there should be created in Macedonia such liberal conditions as exist in the United States to insure a successful execution of a plebiscite. But any one who has lived in Macedonia knows that it will take years to establish such favorable conditions under which a plebiscite can be successfully conducted.

The third method, and the most acceptable to the Macedonians, is that Macedonia should be established as an independent State. The statement in The Times editorial article that in some quarters the Socialist Parties of the Balkan countries desire an independent Macedonia does not state the problem comprehensively. The European powers, the Balkan States, as well as the people themselves, have wanted to establish autonomy for Macedonia. Only a few precedents can be stated here. Had the organic law of 1866 been applied to Macedonia, as provided by Article 23 of the Berlin Treaty, Macedonia would have been an embryonic autonomous State. A European commission drew up in 1880 the so-called "Law of the Vilayets," which would have amounted to an autonomy for Macedonia had it been enforced. The Macedonian Revolutionary Committee, or otherwise known as the Central Committee, addressed to the Sultan Abdul Hamid in 1902 a memorandum in which the committee demanded autonomy for Macedonia, Albania, Old Serbia, and Adrianople. The Murzteg program of reforms, which was formulated by Austria and Russia, was in reality an official bluff to ameliorate the unbearable conditions in Macedonia, but it inspired the people with the hope of autonomy for Macedonia.

Before the outbreak of the Balkan wars Austria and Russia advised an administrative decentralization of European Turkey. This would have established a self-government for Macedonia. The original memorandum of the Bulgaro-Serbian alliance in 1912 contained the following paragraph: "The renewal of the treaty of 1904, *mutatis mutandis*, instead of reform we shall ask for autonomy; if that should prove impossible we should divide Macedonia." Finally, it was virtually agreed between Bulgaria and Greece "to secure the respect of the privileges deriving from treaties or otherwise considered to the Greek and Bulgarian nationalities" in Macedonia. The above statements fully show that an autonomy for Macedonia is really nothing new, which apparently seems to have evolved from the present European

chaos. In fact, it was no less a prominent personage than W.E. Gladstone who uttered the famous dictum, Macedonia for the Macedonians, which has been the slogan of the Macedonian patriots.

In regard to the referred editorial's statement that an independent Macedonia will provide a half solution which will make continuing trouble for the Allies, I beg to say that an independent Macedonia will be the surest basis for a lasting peace in the Balkans. Hitherto all the Balkan States have fought for the acquisition of Macedonia. The Bucharest treaty, which established the status quo ante bellum in the Balkans failed to bring a solution. King Carol of Rumania described it as "nothing more than a drumhead truce." The Carnegie Commission, which investigated the causes and the conduct of the Balkan wars, characterized it as the "illegitimate pretensions of victorious nationalities." Mr. Asquith, the English statesman, said: "The Bucharest treaty is founded on the ruins of violated contracts. It stands on the flimsy substructure of torn-up scraps of paper." It is evident from the above statements and the fact that Bulgaria joined the Central Powers to recover Macedonia that the best solution of the Balkan problem is to give an autonomy to Macedonia with the same form of government as that of Switzerland. The cantons, however, should be smaller in order to insure self-government for the various nationalities. An autonomous Macedonia will become a buffer State between Greece and Bulgaria and will provide a nucleus for a Balkan confederation – a confederation which will guarantee the future economic and intellectual development of the Balkans and which will be a barrier against anti-Balkan influences in the future.

The independent Macedonia would have to be supervised for a time in order to be a success. The League of Nations should delegate a member from its own number with mandatory powers. Any of the European powers would be acceptable, but America would be the preferred member. The Macedonians have had enough experience with the European powers, whose main object has been to exploit their country. The United States has proved her disinterestedness in such matters in the Philippine Islands, Cuba, and Porto Rico. Besides, thousands of the Macedonians have resided in the United States for some time and know what it means to be under the control of the American Government. An American Governor General who knows Eastern affairs intimately – a man like Mr. Henry Morgenthau, as some one has suggested – would go far to insure the success of the Macedonian State.

An autonomy for Macedonia under American mandate will not be thrusting upon the people against their will something which they have not expressed desire for. They are in favor of some such a plan which

will guarantee them the most elementary political rights. There has been formed recently in Switzerland a general council of the Macedonian societies, which has handed to the Premiers of the Entente Powers a memorandum in which the committee requested the following considerations – (1) Macedonia should be occupied by a combined army of American, English, French, and Italian troops; (2) All Macedonian refugees regardless of their faith or nationality should be allowed to return to their homes unmolested, and should be allowed to participate in the organization and management of their country's State affairs; (3) The local administration of Macedonia should be entrusted to the hands of the native inhabitants under the control of the army of occupation.

The Macedonians in the United States have held two congresses. The first congress, which was held in Chicago, Ill., in 1913 unanimously adopted a resolution to demand religious and educational rights. The second congress was held last December, also in Chicago, Ill. The delegates adopted President Wilson's fourteen points by a unanimous rising vote. What the Macedonians of Switzerland and America – the only two countries where they can express their desires without any restraint – have said, is what they will continue to say and fight for, should their demands be not granted.

V.K. Sugareff.

Essay 2 – Show of Patriotism

Thanks again to Kristina X for supplying us with the material for this episode, we will be boarding the Delorean at 8 AM promptly tomorrow morning but again if I am going to board unseen, I have to be there before everyone else shows up. Wish me luck!

Tito, definitely unhappy with last episode's progress, ordered everyone to be ready to do their best in San Francisco. How does he do it? I mean convince people to become Macedonians or to write about Macedonians, an identity which, according to "all knowing" Greeks, does not exist. I know he does it because I have seen the evidence for myself.

As usual TrueMacedonian arrived first, followed by Tito, Doc and Marty. "Today we are going to September 13th, 1905 to pay a visit to a certain newspaper," said Tito as he fiddled with the time dials. Without saying another word, he pushed the activation button and whoosh we were there in seconds.

"Here we are," announced Tito "let's go and do it right his time."

The next day, Thursday, September 14th, 1905, the following article appeared in The San Francisco Call;

"PLOTS DISCOVERED TO KILL MONARCHS

Assassinations Planned of Peter of Servia and Ferdinand of Bulgaria.

Vienna, Sept. 13. – According to telegrams received from Belgrade, a plot has been discovered there and at Sofia to foment a general outbreak in the Balkans with a view of compelling the interference of the powers in the hope that Macedonian autonomy would be proclaimed. The alleged plot, the telegrams say, included an intention to assassinate King Peter of Servia, and Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria. Those engaged in the plot in Sofia have been imprisoned.

It is added that the recent attempt to assassinate the Sultan of Turkey in the courtyard of the mosque in Constantinople is supposed to have been the work of the same organization." (The San Francisco Call, Thursday, September 14th, 1905)

No sooner had Tito picked up the newspaper than I could hear him yelling and swearing in Serbo-Croatian, a language unfamiliar to me, but based on the volume of his voice, I could tell things did not go right. The next thing I heard was, "We are going to New York to September 6th, 1908."

I counted three breaths before we were there. September 6th, 1908 was a Sunday, so why go back in time to a Sunday? What fiendish plans could Tito be concocting this time?

Well I found my answer in the Monday September 7th, 1908 issue of the New York Daily Tribute which in part read;

“OTTOMANS CELEBRATE

Letter from President.

Rejoice over promulgation of Constitution in Turkey.

Every seat and every foot of standing room in Carnegie Hall was occupied last night by a wildly enthusiastic audience of Ottoman subjects and sympathizers who met in mass meetings to celebrate the promulgation of the constitution in Turkey. The meeting was in joint auspices of the Young Turks, the Armenian Revolutionary Federation and the Hunchakist Society, and every form of revolutionist from that part of the world represented by those people who were present, and a few more from Russia. There were Turks, Armenians, Macedonians, Syrians, Bulgarians, Albanians and a few Greeks, while the Russian element consisted of Jewish Zionists and the revolutionists. The latter fastened their bright red standard on the gallery hall while the flags of the other elements were draped on the wall behind the stage, where also were hung a number of signs in different languages - some in English with inscriptions like these: “Liberty, Equality, Fraternity.” Hurrah for the Young Turks and Armenian Revolutionary Federation.”

The speeches also were in general tongues, English, Turkish, Armenian and Arabic.” (New York Daily Tribute, Monday September 7th, 1908)

Tito looked happy as he and the others approached the Deloreon, chatting away about their accomplishments. They then quickly boarded the time machine and set the time dials for December, the same year. I overheard Tito say, “We are going to December 30th, 1908.” I guess Tito was in a festive mood and wanted to celebrate the New Year with a certain editor of the Winchester News.

The next day the following article appeared which I will quote in part; “1909 Four Celebrations of New Year’s Day

New Year is celebrated in this country at least on four different dates in addition to the regular New Year’s celebration on January 1st.

With the Greeks, Russians, Servians, Bulgarians and Macedonians, all of whom adhere to the Greek Catholic Church, New Years is one of the most pleasant if not the pleasantest festival of the year.

The Macedonians, Servians and Bulgarians celebrate the New Year, perhaps less elaborately, also on the same day as their Greek and Russian coreligionists.” (The Winchester News, December 31st, 1908)

Drunk as usual, the boys carried Tito on their shoulders straining to put him in the Delorean. True Macedonian and Marty held him by the arms while Doc tried to lift his feet. “Boy he is heavy,” I overheard Doc say as Tito began to mumble something about going to 1913. “TrueMacedonian, set the dial to August 15th, 1913, we are going to Fort Wayne Indiana,” Tito commanded before he passed out. Being the most senior person in the expedition, Doc then pushed the activation button and swoosh we were in Fort Wayne in a flash. “We are here,” said Doc as he opened a liquor bottle and put it under Tito’s nose. “With Tito it works like a smelling salt,” Doc explained “I should know after all I am his doctor.” “What are you waiting for, let’s go, get a move on,” commanded Tito as he jumped up after smelling the booze. What mission could we be going to in 1913, I wondered?

The mission became apparent when the following article appeared in the The Fort Wayne Daily News on Tuesday, August 19th, 1913;

“The Macedonians Show Patriotism For Country
All over the world they are sore over Balkan Affair

Want War Continued

Macedonians of United States Pass Resolutions Condemning Recent Balkan Treaty

A new phase to the Balkan situation came to light today, through a local source, when it was learned that the Macedonians all over the world deeply resent the action which will be the result of the recent Balkan treaty. The Macedonians of America are leading a world-wide movement among the people of that race to rebel against the carrying out of the treaty, inasmuch as it means the elimination of Macedonia as a country and a world power. Under the treaty, Macedonia is now recognized except as a large amount of territory to be divided among the recent contestants. A large part of the country would fall under Grecian rule, and it is asserted that the Macedonians would even change their religion to escape from the rule of Greece.

A set of resolutions have been prepared by a secret committee of Macedonians, representing that race in America, and similar resolutions have been passed by every Macedonian community throughout the world, according to an assertion from one of the Macedonians who is high up in the affairs of the local colony. A copy of the resolutions was received by the local colony today.

“The idea of adopting a new religion is spreading very rapidly among the Macedonians,” said this man this morning. “The civilized world may be astonished to see that the entire Macedonian nation has thrown off the spiritual fetters by which the Greeks have held them for so many centuries.”

The Resolutions

The set of resolutions were given to the News for publication, as it is said that they will be unanimously accepted by the members of the Macedonian colony of this city, as they have been by hundreds of other colonies in this and other countries. The resolutions demonstrate extreme patriotism, and represent a world-wide movement.

They are as follows:

“As the representative of the Macedonian government, and having the authority to submit to the Macedonian government and the parliament a problem, in the solution of which your government ought to take part, we, the Macedonians of the United States of America, in our demonstrations and meetings, organized by the Macedonian Revolutionary Organization in the United States of America, on the 16th day of August, 1913, adopted and submit to your government the following resolution-protest:

“Whereas, The Balkan-Turkish war was declared and fought in the name of the freedom of Macedonia and the Christians in Turkey of Europe, in which war we, the Macedonians, fought most vigorously and with our help Turkey was defeated;

“Whereas, The end of this Balkan-Turkish war was not the freedom of Macedonia, but most generous division of our country and people between Servia and Greece, and our nation was compelled to submit to the Servian and the Greek governments, a government more tyrannical than the Turkish government; and

“Whereas, The Servian and the Greek governments now kill our fathers and our brothers, despoil the virtue and honor of our sisters, mothers and wives, and molest our children, all of which inhuman acts aim at the entire destruction of our national existence in Macedonia, and

“Whereas, The present unjust division of our country was caused by the European diplomacy, and if the same exists in future there will always be internal revolutions and disturbances which will keep all the Balkan states in readiness for war and might throw all the European powers in disastrous clash;

“Whereas, The peace in the Balkans is only the freedom based on the principle: ‘Macedonia for the Macedonians.’

“We, the Macedonians in the United States of America, with all the vigor in us, protest against the unjust division of Macedonia and the tyranny of the Servian and Greek governments in Macedonia;

“We appeal to the European powers to declare the conference in Bucharest, Roumainia, between the representatives of the Balkan states unjust, and to demand autonomy of Macedonia;

“We declare to all the nations of the world, that if the freedom of Macedonia is not granted soon, we will continue our struggle and fight for the freedom of our country, and we will all die or become free. We cry: ‘Give us freedom or give us death.’”

“The Committee for the Macedonians in U.S.A.” (The Fort Wayne Daily News, Tuesday, August 19th, 1913).

After reading the article I felt like calling out “bravo” to Tito and his team but I felt it was best I kept quiet because tomorrow we would be venturing to new frontiers and causing more mischief for the Modern Greeks. “See you tomorrow 8 AM sharp,” exclaimed Tito and with those words everyone parted leaving me free to again slip out of the trunk un-noticed. Ah, but wait a minute I thought, why don’t I do some adventuring of my own? And with that thought I rolled the time dials to a random date and pressed the activation button. There I met a young author named Gustave Le Bon and convinced him to write the following about the Modern Greeks;

“In 1851, at the time of her enfranchisement, Greece possessed about one million inhabitants, of who a quarter were Albanians or Wallachians. The population was a residue of invaders of all peoples, and notably of Slavs. For centuries the Greeks properly so called had disappeared from Greece. From the time of the Roman conquest, Greece was regarded by every adventurer as a nursery of slaves, which everyone might have recourse to with impunity. Slave-traders brought as many as ten thousand Greek slaves to Rome at a single venture. Later on the Goths, Heruli, Bulgarians, Wallachians and so forth continued to invade the country and lead its inhabitants into slavery. Greece was repopulated a little only by the invasion of the Slavs. The language subsisted mainly because it was spoken throughout all the Byzantine East. The present population consists almost entirely of Slavs, the ancient Greek type immortalized in sculpture having totally disappeared.” (“The Psychology of Socialism”, by Gustave Le Bon, page 206).

Tired from my adventure I returned the Delorean to its original time and place and I too retired until the next morning.

Essay 3 – Greek betrays Delchev

Thanks again to Kristina X for supplying us with the material for this episode, we will be boarding the Delorean at 8 AM promptly tomorrow morning but again if I am going to board unseen, I have to be there before everyone else shows up. Wish me luck!

The next morning I arrived at the spot where the Delorean was hidden just minutes before 8 AM and snuck into it unseen, so I thought! Unbeknownst to me however, TrueMacedonian had arrived before me and from the edge of the woodlands, saw me sneaking into the car's trunk.

The next thing I knew the trunk door flew open and TrueMacedonian was staring down at me as I crouched trying to hide. "Who are you and what are you doing here?" commanded TrueMacedonian in a stern and authoritative voice. I said, "Allow me to get out of the trunk and I will explain everything to you." Thinking that my goose was cooked I decided to tell TrueMacedonian everything.

As I spoke TrueMacedonian listened intently and must have realized at some point the predicament we were both in so when I was done talking he quietly said, "Your secret is safe with me but the others will soon be here and may not be so forgiving so please get back in the trunk and we will pretend we never saw each other." That was good enough for me so I popped back into the trunk and closed the latch behind me. "One question," I muttered. "How does he do it, I mean how does Tito convince people to become Macedonian and to write about Macedonians?" "It's the women," he said. "But keep quiet now, Tito and the others are coming."

What could TrueMacedonian have possibly meant by "the women"; a statement that would keep me preoccupied for the rest of the day and overnight. In the meantime, as the rest of the team arrived and boarded the Delorean I overheard Tito bark his next orders. While fiddling with the time control knobs Tito said, "We are going to Galveston, Texas, to Sunday July 28th, 1895. Prepare to meet with the Galveston News Daily editor. Also bring plenty of rakia."

"Are we going to his home?" I overheard TrueMacedonian ask. "Yes, we are going to his home," barked Tito. "Where else do you suppose we would be meeting him on a Sunday?"

Tito was in one of those moods, perhaps he was recovering from a hangover from the night before and what better way to recover from a hangover than with more rakia! Drinking too much rakia would definitely give a person a hangover. After all Tito was a socialite and booze in those days was the poison of choice.

The team's mission became apparent to me the next day when the Galveston Daily News printed the following story;

“MACEDONIAN SUCCESS

London, July 29. – The correspondent of the Chronicle at Constantinople says:

The Macedonians, after a sharp conflict with the Turkish troops, have captured the town of Mendik, southwest of Nevrokop. The victors burned the telegraph station and the Turkish headquarters.

The Vienna correspondent of the Chronicle says;

According to the statement of the Roumanian minister at Constantinople many of the insurgents arrested in Macedonia were found to be Russian officers. The Porte intends to send the documents found in their possession to the powers as proof that the Macedonian uprising is due to Russian agents and energy.

The Chronicle also has an editorial on the above information which regards affairs in the Balkan land as menacing the peace of Europe. ‘We see no way out of the trouble’ the editorial says, ‘except by summoning another congress, failing in which we may expect atrocities in Macedonia and Albania.’”

THE GALVESTON DAILY NEWS, MONDAY JULY 29, 1895”.

As I waited for the team to return, I could hear Tito from a mile away yelling at the top of his lungs. I could not make out what he was saying but he was mad! Something may have gone wrong; perhaps it was too much rakia or perhaps it was the mention of the Russian officers in the article. Could The Galveston Daily News have double crossed Tito and used the above piece for its own purposes? I guess I will never know for sure.

Everyone was quiet when they boarded the Delorean. I guess they had to be if they didn't want to be berated by Tito. “We are going to Brooklyn, to April 22nd, 1897,” barked Tito as he quickly set the time travel dials and pushed the activation button.

We were there in seconds and everyone left the time machine in silence. I had no idea what the next mission was going to be until I read the next day's paper which in part read;

“Every friend of Greece will hope that not only the Bulgarians but the Macedonians and the Albanians, will also demand a redress of their grievances and threaten to mobilize their troops unless the Sultan consents to their wishes.

The friends of Greece would not be sorry if the Sultan should refuse to do what the Bulgarians and Macedonians and Albanians want and if

there should be a vigorous attack upon the Turkish intruding army from the rear.” (The Brooklyn Daily Eagle – Friday, April 23rd, 1897)

Bravo to Tito and his team, they managed to squeeze the words “Macedonian” into the Brooklyn Daily Eagle on Friday April 23rd, 1897 when Tito was only five years old. What an accomplishment! Do you still believe Tito “created” the Macedonians?

Tito was in a happier mood as the team returned to the Delorean to go on the next mission. “Next we are going to Washington, Monday August 24th, 1903,” I overheard Tito say in a quiet mellow voice. This was unusual for Tito but it was better than listening to him bark and whine.

The team’s next mission was revealed in the Washington Times article the next day which in part read;

“An alliance [between Turkey and Greece] such as this would prove more effective than anything else in checking the designs which Russia is credited with having on Constantinople, and would prove of such inestimable advantage to the 8,000,000 Greeks living in the Ottoman Empire, giving them a preferred position over Bulgars, Serbs, Roumanians, Macedonians and Armenians that they may be relied upon to use all their influence to promote the successful conclusion of the negotiations.” (The Washington Times, Tuesday, August 25th, 1903)

This was indeed a quick mission and the team in no time was back for another one. I overhead Tito say, “We are going to New York, May 25th, 1903.”

Now what was unusual about that date? I could not put my finger on it until I read the next day’s news in the May 26th, 1903 New York Times article which read;

“MACEDONIAN CHIEF’S DEATH

A Greek Spy Betrayed Deltcheff’s Whereabouts to the Turks.

London Times - New York Times
Special Telegram.

LONDON, May 26. – Detailed report of the death of Deltcheff, the famous Macedonian chief, says the Sofia correspondent of the Times, shown that he accompanied a band under Voivoda and Kirtchovski, together with the poet Tavaroff, and entered the village of Banitza, near Seres, where his presence was betrayed to the Turks by a Greek spy. A large force surrounded the village, and all the members of the revolutionary band were killed after a long resistance. It is stated that

the inhabitants of the village, to which the Turks set fire, were also killed.

Deltcheff was thirty-two years old. He was a schoolmaster, and practically created the present Macedonian organization, which has ramifications in all parts of the country.

The Vienna correspondent of the times says persecutions and arrests continue in the vilayete of Andeanople. Numbers of priests and schoolteachers have been taken into custody. Arms have been found in six villages. The male population has fled, and agricultural work is at standstill." (The New York Times, May 26th, 1903).

My heart dropped when I read the sad news that our most revered hero Gotse Delchev had died. Even though this was history, reading the news from a genuine, just published newspaper seemed to me like it happened yesterday and I could not imagine how the Macedonian people of his time, who depended on his wisdom and guidance, must have felt. What a tragedy!

Just as I was engrossed in reading the article, I heard rustling in the distance. The team was returning. No one said a word as the time Machine swished its way back to the future. Quietly everyone disappeared and retired for the night. I was left alone in a sad mood and the Delorean was all mine.

Sad as I was, I decided to take another random mission of my own. This time I went to Canada, November 1902 where I met an impressionable young man named John, A. Ewan and convinced him to place the following passage in the Canadian Magazine of Politics, Science, Art and Literature;

"One thing that has to be remembered is that neither Macedonians nor Bulgarians are Greeks. They are mainly Slavs and will put up a stiff fight in the hilly country which will be the scene of operations if an uprising takes place." (The Canadian Magazine of Politics, Science, Art and Literature", Vol. XX, November 1902 to April 1903 inclusive, by John, A. Ewan, page 479)

Still smarting from the sad news of Delchev's death, especially since it was caused by a Greek spy, I decided to do some more "adventuring" and spun the time dial wildly. I ended up going to Beirut, Syria to March 16th, 1844. There I met a man, a General no less, called Jochmus and convinced him to write a letter to Colonel Churchill which in part read;

"I have already told you that I cannot partake in your enthusiastic views in favour of the Greeks. The idea of seeing them one day at Constantinople is preposterous, and there is nothing in the nation which warrants such a supposition.

The modern Greeks possess none of the qualities that make nations great. Their existence is due to the battle of Navarino, for in the autumn of 1827 Greece was unquestionably conquered by the arms of the Grand Visir Reshid Mehmed and by Ibrahim Pasha of Egypt and again the “untoward event” of Navarino could only occur at a time when Phil-Hellenism was a sort of social disease, caused by hallucinations and by the illusion of finding in the present mongrel inhabitants of the Morea and Attica the descendents of the ancient Hellenes.” (“The Syrian War and the Decline of the Ottoman Empire 1840 – 1848”, by Baron Augustus Jochmus, Vol. 1, pages 99 and 100)

Somewhat satisfied with my last two solo missions, I returned the Delorean to its original place and time and retired for the evening but still wondered what TrueMacedonian meant by “the women”.

Essay 4 – Mischief is my middle name

The next morning I showed up an hour earlier in hopes of meeting TrueMacedonian at the secret place where the Dolorean was parked and to ask him the burning question that kept me up half the night. What did he mean by “the women”?

To my surprise TrueMacedonian was already there when I showed up and he too was anxious to discover what the deal was with me. How did I discover the secret place where the Delorean was hidden and how did I know about Tito’s missions?

As we greeted each other I wasted no time and asked my questions first. “What did you mean when you said ‘it was the women’ in regards to Tito’s missions?”

TrueMacedonian was completely surprised by my question and after a long and loud laugh said, “Don’t you know Tito is a womanizer? He has girlfriends all over the world and all through a span of over 100 years. Do you think he goes around the world and to various dates in time just to turn people into Macedonians and to convince them to write about the Macedonians? No! He goes to see his girlfriends and he gets them to do him ‘favours’, if you know what I mean? He seduces the young ladies and they in turn seduce the ‘lonely’ editors, reporters and authors. And then when Tito needs favours he calls on the girls to collect. That’s how he does it!”

Now why didn’t I think of that, I thought to myself, as TrueMacedonian continued to tell me about Tito’s crafty methods and how he uses his charm to seduce young ladies, particularly those in high society.

“And what’s your role in this?” I asked TrueMacedonian. “We are his ‘props’ sort of,” he said. “We are there to do what is necessary to make Tito look good and comfortable, except for Doc of course. Doc is his personal doctor who makes sure Tito does not ‘snuff’ himself overindulging.”

It was now TrueMacedonian’s turn to question my involvement in all this. Fortunately for me he only had a couple of questions. The first he asked was, “How did you discover the Delorean?”

I told him an engineer friend of mine tipped me off in 1985 when the Delorean was outfitted with its engine. I got inside the trunk to have a look at the electronics but then Tito and the others arrived to pick it up. I did not believe time travel was possible and thought the whole thing was a hoax until I saw a young Tito with my own eyes.

The second question TrueMacedonian asked was, “Why did you stay with the team and follow it on its missions?” Well that was easy; I was there for the adventure. “Believing” the Greek claims that Tito

actually “created” the Macedonians, I was curious to find out how he did it.

Who would have thought that crafty Tito would use young “female socialites” to do his bidding?

I had one more question for TrueMacedonian. “How did the Greeks find out Tito ‘created’ the Macedonians? Did they know about his time travels?” I asked.

TrueMacedonian had no answer! “Only the Greeks know for sure,” he said as he pushed me down to duck for cover when Tito and the others were coming.

Lying comfortably in the Delorean’s trunk I overheard Tito say “dobro utro” to TrueMacedonian as he boarded the time machine and set its dials for another mission.

“We are going to (unintelligible), to September 22nd, 1911 to see the editor of the Evening Post,” he commanded as he pushed the activation button. I did not hear where we were going so I had no idea where to look the next day as I went through most of the “popular” daily newspapers for September 23rd, 1911. Fortunately I found the following article in the Evening Post;

“THE PROBLEM OF TURKEY

INEXPLICABLE MODE OF ACTION”

I skimmed through the article quickly until I read the sentence;

“The three might be added [to] the murders of Bulgarians, Macedonians, Greeks and Serbs who have been done to death with the old religious fury which is as prevalent as ever.”

(Evening Post, Issue 73, September 23rd, 1911, page 10)

Ah, that crafty Tito not only did he add the word “Macedonians” to the article but he added it together with the words “Bulgarians”, “Greeks” and “Serbs” in order to distinguish them as a unique ethnic identity. What a clever move!

Upon the team’s return from today’s first mission Tito seemed to be in a good mood when he said, “We are going to October 11, 1907 to visit with another Evening Post editor”.

How many Evening Posts could there be in this world, especially in 1907, I wondered as I feverishly flipped the pages of one Evening Post after another? It had to be the same paper as the previews mission, I thought to myself, and sure enough it was. The story read in part as follows;

“The Balkans

The state of affairs in the Balkans is not by any means reassuring, although the same might have been remarked any time within the last ten years, or even longer. Today’s cable messages tell us that the Creusot works have at the present time a contract for the delivery during 1908 for material and ammunition for Servia, and that the same firm has also been entrusted with the manufacture of materials for new artillery for Greece. For some time now the Serbs, the Greeks, the Bulgars and the Macedonians have been annoying each other more than any occasion during a comparatively short period, and, as usual, it is very hard to form a just conclusion as to which is the most to blame.” (Evening Post, Volume LXXIV, issue 90, October 12, 1907, page 4)

Again, how clever of Tito to convince the editor to add the word “Macedonians” amidst the words “Greeks”, “Bulgars” and “Serbs”. Very nicely done team!

Again upon their return everyone was in a good mood, not very talkative but none the less in a good mood.

“I feel good,” Tito commanded “so I think this time we should take a field mission. What do you think?” “Yes, yes, yes,” was the reply. “Okay then, we are going to Rome, Italy to visit a certain reporter who owes me a few favours. I am setting the time dials to September 26, 1915.

I couldn’t help but wonder “what kind of favours” Tito did for this poor reporter and now he was going to “blackmail” him to write about the Macedonians.

I had no idea the article would appear in an American newspaper and only found it by accident.

“Special cable to the New York Times.

Rome, Sept. 27. – Another great conflagration in the Balkans is unavoidable. Many Balkan exiles living in Italy, especially Greeks, Macedonians, and Bulgarians are speeding home via Brindissi and Messina. Another sign of the gravity of the situation is the fresh severity of the censorship in the Balkan countries practically allowing only the transmission of official news.” (The New York Times, September 27, 1915)

No sooner was the team back than they quickly left for their next mission. It was getting late and Tito insisted on doing one more mission before retiring for the day. “We are going to the West Coast to Tuesday August 25th, 1903,” he said as he quickly set the time dials and pushed the activation button.

I had to look all through the West Coast newspapers the next day before I found the following article, which in part read;

“THE BALKAN INSURRECTION

It is therefore quite understandable that religious fanaticism and intolerance, combined with racial and political prejudices, could cause Turks, Macedonians, Greeks, Albanians and other races comprising the population of the Balkans to turn and rend each other if their passions are not kept in check by a government wise enough and strong enough to hold them.” (West Coast Times, Wednesday, August 26, 1903, page 2)

The team was back in no time and as its members retired for the night, I was left alone with the Delorean. If only they knew the kind of mischief I would be getting into! Mischief was my middle name as I again took sole possession of the time machine. I spun the time dial wildly and went where it took me. This time I had no idea where and when I landed but no matter, wherever this was it was good because I ran into a young author named David Turnock and convinced him to write the following;

“It was overwhelmingly ‘Greek’, a label that covers not only ethnic Greeks but Hellenized Orthodox people such as Armenians, Bulgarians, Macedonians and Vlachs as well. Even Serbs who initially resisted any identification with Greek culture were being converted at the turn of the century: they had effectively established a universal state within the empire, as a result of vigorous reaction to growth of banditry which eliminated Muslim elements both Turkish and Albanian. But as Greek was the language of commerce throughout the Balkans, some Serbs began to adjust, at least until a cultural reaction set in during the 1820s. Thus many of the ‘Greeks’ who carted textile materials to the coast were Slavs and Vlachs and in addition there were many Armenians taking the road to Germany and Russia.” (“The Making of Eastern Europe from the Earliest times to 1815”, by David Turnock, page 292)

Satisfied with my deeds for the day, I returned the Delorean to its original time and space and retired for the evening.

Essay 5 – In the Balkans

The next morning I again showed up an hour earlier in hopes of seeing TrueMacedonian before the others arrived. The Delorean's hood was cold as it had cooled off from my previous day's adventure.

As usual TrueMacedonian was the first to arrive but followed closely by Tito, Doc and Marty so we had very little time for discussion. After saying "dobro utro", TrueMacedonian advised me to quickly get into the trunk because the others were not far behind. I had one request for TrueMacedonian. I asked him to do me a favour and make sure Tito disclosed the time and location of his missions so that I would be able to follow their progress. Without proper information I found it difficult to follow their progress in the newspapers. Yesterday for example, I had to look all through the west coast newspapers to find out what they had done.

But before TrueMacedonian had a chance to reply I heard him tap twice on the Delorean's hood, letting me know that the others were there and that I should keep quiet.

Tito was not in a very good mood this morning. I could tell this by his abrupt entry into the Delorean, without greeting TrueMacedonian as he proceeded to fiddle with the time knobs setting the next destination. What a grouch I thought. No that's too nice for him, he is more like an ogre, no wonder he has earned the title dictator!

"We are going to Iowa, to January 25, 1911," I overheard him say in a stern and brutish voice. Okay we are going to Iowa, to January 25, 1911. But where in Iowa?

The next day I was lucky to run into this article on only my fourth try;

"FEW BOHEMIANS ARE COMING OVER

FIND GOOD CHANCES IN NATIVE HEALTH SAYS REV.
ZILKA."

As I skimmed through the article my eye caught the following paragraph;

"Rev. Zilka stated that the future immigrants to the United States will be coming from Russia and the Balkan states. They will be mostly Russians, Servians, Kroatians, Macedonians, Slovaks and Greeks." (The Cedar Rapids Evening Gazette, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Thursday, January 26, 1911, page 12)

What a clever move on Tito's part, placing the word "Macedonians" in the same line as "Greeks". I began to think of Tito as less of an ogre and more of a grouch. Bravo Tito and the team.

No sooner had the team returned, with a happier Tito I may add, than they were off again this time to Winnipeg, to Sunday, February 9, 1913.

The next day I found a story in the Winnipeg Free press which in part read;

"Turkish Navy Seen in Severe Action"

Further down the article I found the following;

"The government has decided to expel all Greek journalists and is also causing the arrests of all Greeks, Bulgarians and Macedonians, who will probably be sent out of the country." (Winnipeg Free Press, Monday, February 10, 1913)

This was the time of the 2nd Balkan War just before Macedonia was partitioned by Greece, Serbia and Bulgaria. Not much of a story but the important thing is Tito managed to stick the word "Macedonians" among the words "Greeks" and "Bulgarians" to distinguish them as different ethnicities. Again bravo to Tito and the team.

"It's time for a new mission," I heard Tito say in the distance as the team was approaching the Delorean. "We are going to Chillicothe, Missouri, April 24, 1925," I heard Tito say as the time machine swished its way to the next destination. Where is Chillicothe, I wondered, and why 1925? I got my answer the next day when I skimmed through the following article which in part read;

"EUROPE LEARNS NOTHING FROM THE WORLD WAR"

"To the Southeast, in the Balkans, the familiar signs of unrest are not lacking. Belgrade, has resorted to dictatorship. Jugoslavia and Bulgaria watch one other across their frontiers, wondering which will leave the first brick. The Macedonians continue their policy of provoking first the Serbs and then the Bulgarians in the hope that some day, while the two are quarreling, Macedonia will run off with the coveted bone of independence." (The Daily Constitution, Chillicothe, Missouri, Wednesday, April 25th, 1925)

I noticed the word "Yugoslavia" was intentionally misspelled as "Jugoslavia". I assumed it must have been TrueMacedonian's doing.

Sure enough my assumption was correct as I overheard TrueMacedonian say "Jugoslavia" a few times when the team returned to the Delorean.

“I know it’s late but I want to do one more mission today,” I heard Tito exclaim. “We are going to Salt Lake City, Utah, to February 5th, 1903 and after that we are all going home.”

That was good enough for me. I was able to locate their activity the next day when I read the following article;

“IN THE BALKANS

It looks stormy in the direction of the Balkan states. Both Turkey and Roumania are purchasing large quantities of arms and ammunition, and Turkish troops are being massed along the Macedonian frontier. Austria-Hungary is said to have arranged for the mobilization of an eastern army corps, and the explanation that this is done in the interest of army maneuvers is not believed to be correct.

The Macedonians claim that they have influential friends in Europe, who would come out for their cause if they had gained a victory or two over the Turks, and hence their plans for an early rising.

It is also claimed that Russia and Austria have agreed on a scheme for the amelioration of the condition of the oppressed people of Macedonia, Albania and Armenia. But as this plan involves practically autonomy, at least for the Macedonians and Albanians, it is believed that the Sultan will refuse to accede to any proposition of that kind.

Those who have studied the situation believe that if the diplomats are unable to coerce Turkey and to prevent the contemplated rising in Macedonia, a great storm is likely to break out before long. The situation is interesting enough, for few doubt that such a storm must come before the millennial peace and calm can rest upon the surface of the earth.” (Deseret Evening News, Great Salt Lake City, Utah, February 6th, 1903, Last Edition)

The team was back in no time, returned to the usual place and time and departed for a well deserved rest. I was alone again and happened to stumble onto a half empty bottle of rakia, as I was making my way out of the Delorean’s trunk. Should I take a gulp or not, I asked myself? Unaware of my actions my fingers automatically removed the cap from the bottle and I began to gulp the liquid down. I must have been very thirsty from the long trek cooped up in the trunk. It felt good to drink it down except for the burning sensation I felt afterwards, bringing me to the reality that I had just polished half a Mickey of rakia. Oh well, it’s time for mischief again.

I got back into the Delorean and spun the time dial wildly. Let the time machine take me wherever it wants, I thought to myself. Swish I was there wherever “there” was. I was too “tipsy” to remember so I will not try. I do remember however that I met a nice fellow by the

name of Ioannis Kouvourlis and said a lot of things to him about how the modern Greeks were created.

As a result of my doing, he wrote the following article which in part read;

“From precocious essayist to national historiographer

The context of the ‘1846 Lecture’ can help us to understand the problems regarding the writing of an all-encompassing Greek national history that Paparrigopoulos would not overcome until at least 1853, the year of the publication of his first, one volume ‘History of the Hellenic Nation’. For in his earlier works Paparrigopoulos had essentially distinguished between the history of the Byzantine state and the history of medieval Greece; he has then considered ancient Macedonians as a more or less distinct nation – because as he wrote in his ‘Textbook of General History’ in 1849, ‘the Macedonian nation accomplished in the general history [of civilization] a different mission from that of the Hellenic nation’ (Paparrigopoulos 1849-53, 1.193); and, inevitably, he had tended to focus on the history of the ancient and modern Greeks.

So, a somewhat ‘teleological’, yet quite understandable, question here would be: what was still needed for the formation of a general explanatory scheme that holds together the edifice of Paparrigopoulos’s all-encompassing five-volume ‘History of the Hellenic Nation’? In my opinion the answer is: two main sources of inspiration, Droysen and Zambelios, as well as a more refined understanding and use of the theoretical principles of German historicism by Paparrigopoulos himself.

Johann Gustav Droysen (1808 – 1884), to whom Paparrigopoulos (1849 – 53, 1.206) referred for the first time in his ‘Textbook’ of 1849 but without being able to take advantage of the contribution of the great German historicist, offered him weighty arguments regarding the Greek identity of the ancient Macedonians and the spread of Hellenic civilization eastwards. He also offered him one of the key concepts of the newly born national historical school: the concept of ‘Hellenism’. Although Droysen himself restricted its use to the Hellenistic world, he and his disciples, such as Otto Abel (1824 – 1854), understood ‘Hellenism’ in then sense of a ‘Hellenic genius’, which had a historical trajectory of its own. In fact, what Paparrigopoulos and other Greek national historians such as Zambelios had to do after having read Droysen is to generalize the use of the concept so as to apply to the whole of Greek history and, at another level, to identify it with the concept of a ‘Greek nation’. The final result of this double intellectual

process was the production of a series of terms and concepts well known to all contemporary Hellenists: ‘Ancient Hellenism’, ‘Macedonian Hellenism’, ‘Byzantine Hellenism’, ‘Modern Hellenism’ and so forth.” (“The Making of Modern Greece”, edited by Roderic Beaton and David Ricks, Center for Hellenic Studies, King’s College, London, pages 59 and 60)

I don’t remember how I got back that night but early the next morning I was awakened by TrueMacedonian while I sat sleeping in front of the Delorean’s controls.

Essay 6 – Macedonia is for Republic

The next morning I was rudely awakened by a loud noise. Where am I, I wondered as I gazed directly into TrueMacedonian's face, attempting to focus my eyes.

"What are you doing here so early in the morning?" True Macedonian demanded as he stood before me pounding his hands on the Delorean's hood.

What if the car is still warm and he knows I have been using it for selfish reasons? I must tell him the truth, the whole truth or he will never trust me again.

I felt a terrible pain in my head as I attempted to stand up. The pain caused me discomfort which must have reflected on my face because TrueMacedonian asked me if I was okay. "I have a bit of a hangover," I said. "I must have been very thirsty when I stumbled across one of Tito's half empty rakia bottles and drank it all down."

"That would explain your headache but hardly explain the hot engine under the Delorean's hood," exclaimed TrueMacedonian.

"Well, I have been occasionally 'borrowing' the time machine and doing solo missions of my own," I said.

TrueMacedonian did not take the news kindly. "Do you know how dangerous that is?" he asked loudly, with a sober face. "You could change the future if you are not careful, which would have devastating results for all of us you know!"

"But isn't that what Tito and you guys are already doing?" I responded.

"You got me there!" he said as he pondered for a bit. "Okay you can use the time machine but I want to come with you," he said. "You know, to keep you company and more importantly, to keep you out of trouble," exclaimed TrueMacedonian.

"I would love nothing more than to have you by my side," I responded as I felt my spirits lift.

"It's a deal then. After our last mission when Tito and the others leave this place you wait for me and I will return when the coast is clear," explained TrueMacedonian. "Now get into the trunk quickly because the others are coming!"

And with those words, ignoring the severe headache, I jumped into the Delorean's trunk and made myself comfortable as TrueMacedonian waited for the others to arrive.

Tito seemed to be in a good mood this morning as he greeted TrueMacedonian with the usual "dobro utro". Without wasting any time he proceeded to set the time dials and pushed the time machine activation button. "We are going to Iowa, to August 23rd, 1945," he

said and swish in seconds we were there. “Don’t forget to bring the box of chocolates and bouquet of flowers, I am going on a big date today,” Tito exclaimed as the team departed for its first mission of the day.

Should I follow them, I wondered? No one will recognize me in 1945 if they saw me, except of course, TrueMacedonian. As I pondered my impulsive need to bolt out of the Delorean’s trunk, my rational side convinced me to reconsider. I didn’t want to further anger TrueMacedonian who so far has been more than kind to me and, as of this evening, will become my partner in ultimate mischief.

The next day I searched the papers frantically until I found the following;

“Macedonia Asks for Autonomy

One of Greatest Trouble Spots

SALONIKA, Greece, - Local patriots are reviving the old cry for autonomy for Macedonia, an ill defined area in the heart of the troubled Balkans.

Macedonia, which has not enjoyed a national sovereignty since the time of Alexander the Great, today is one of the greatest potential trouble spots in Europe.

The country is divided into three parts. It comprises a large part of Northern Greece and Southern Yugoslavia and a small section of Bulgaria. Gathered here are representatives of all the races and most of the hatreds and tensions which have kept the Balkan Peninsula upset for 50 years.

Greek-Yugoslav relations are strained along the common frontier which cuts through the wild mountains of Macedonia as a result of the depredation of political and bandit bands. Greeks say there is evidence of recruiting by irregular Macedonian forces. The autonomy campaign is in the open in Yugoslavia and Bulgaria and is underground in Greece.

Yugoslav Macedonia, formerly known as South Serbia, has been given a type of autonomy under Marshal Tito’s framework of federated Yugoslavia. This is a step in the direction the autonomists want, and agitation for union of all parts under a single government follows almost automatically.

Will be approved by Greece.

In the early days of liberation, the Yugoslav Macedonians attempted to name a foreign minister of their own. There was quick reaction from Belgrade, and Skopje, their capital was given a new set

of government officials with strict instructions that foreign policy was the province of the central government.

Greeks look on any effort towards an autonomous Macedonia as a threat to take from them the rich farmlands of the north upon which the whole national economy depends.

Far from listening to the demands, Greece will probably seek at the peace conferences to extend her frontier northward.

Bulgaria gave lip service to the autonomy principle during the war years when her troops occupied much of Greek and Yugoslav Macedonia. But the real intention of the occupation troops, it became evident, was to Bulgarize the whole area. Many autonomists then joined the partisan resistance forces.” (Council Bluffs Iowa, Nonpareil, Friday, August 24th, 1945, page 9)

Bravo Tito, you even managed to get your name in the paper. It must have been some date you had!

It was nice to see a happy Tito for a change as I heard his laughter from the distance while the team was returning from its first mission of the day.

“We are going to Sofia, Bulgaria, to November 7th, 1940,” I overheard Tito say as the time machine swished its way to the next destination.

I had a hell of a time the next day locating the story, that is, until I ran into the following article in the Globe and Mail;

“Defenders Hold Balance, Metaxas Tells People

Sofia, Bulgaria, Nov 8 (BUP). – Premier Metaxas of Greece broadcast over the radio in Athens tonight that after ten days of Italo-Greek warfare the balance was in Greece’s favour.

The Greek radio said that British aid is flowing to Greece ‘regularly and according to plan.’

Metaxas, addressing his remarks to the town of Volos after it had been bombed from the air, asserted that ‘Italian methods will stir our people to fight even with greater recklessness and courage until the last battle is won.’

He declared Italy had resorted to ‘mean, base methods’ by attacking civilian populations of open towns.

Metaxas said proof that the balance lay with Greece could be seen in the number of prisoners taken and the penetration of Albania. The Athens radio ‘regretted’ that the Italians found Greek roads very bad and the weather inferior, asserting, however, that the Greeks have found them both good enough to advance as far as the heights above Koritza.

The broadcast denied vigorously Italian allegations that Macedonians had revolted against Greek rule, and rumors that prince

Paul had been mistreated for supposed pro-German sympathies and had fled to Canada.” (Globe and Mail, November 8th, 1940)

That clever Tito, he even had Metaxas, the biggest Macedonian hater, say the “M” word on the radio! How much more clever can you get than that?

The team was back and as quickly as it returned it was off again, this time to Callbran, Messa County, to Thursday, September 4th, 1924.

It took me forever to find the article the next day but here it is in full. It is pro-Bulgarian, if I may add, but nonetheless, covers the main points of the Macedonian message to the world;

“Macedonia is for Republic

Story of Conditions There Told by Emissary From the People.

New York. – A story of conditions in Macedonia, which he ascribes to Serb and Greek domination, has been brought to this country by J. Chkatroff, representative of the Union of the Macedonian Organizations of Bulgaria for the United States and Canada, who arrived here from Sofia recently. The Macedonians, he said, want complete independence and hope that ultimately there will be a Balkan republic, with all Balkan countries federated states.

Mr. Chkatroff said he represented approximately 450,000 Macedonians in Bulgaria, who are members of 94 fraternal organizations, 34 societies of youths, a score of benevolent associations and others. He expects to bring his message of Macedonian hopes to the 60,000 natives of that country in the United States.

‘In order to understand the causes of the unruly situation in the Balkans and especially in Macedonia, the country which has always been the apple of discord among the Balkan neighbors, one must not forget her struggle for liberty and political independence during the period of the Turkish domination, and the present-day policy of her new conquerors, Serbs and Greeks,’ he said.

Many years ago the Macedonian people began a bloody revolutionary war, which has lasted already more than a quarter of a century, and this caused on several occasions the European chancelleries to move, and finally in 1912 the Balkan alliance was formed against the Turkish empire. Unfortunately, the first Balkan war, and the following fratricide among the Balkan allies culminating in the Treaty of Bucharest of 1913, instead of creating an independent Macedonia in accordance with the wishes of her people, and thus to establish a permanent peace in the Balkans, divided the country

between the three belligerents, Serbia, Greece and Bulgaria. This actually made the Macedonian crisis worse.

Errors Are Kept Up.

The last European war which radically changed the map of Europe and which gave us the great principles of self-determination of Woodrow Wilson, did not bring to the Macedonian question its deserved political solution. Macedonia, at that time, was waiting day and night to see those principles applied to her people, so that the latter may be able to freely determine their wishes as to the future of their country. But the Treaty of Peace of Neuilly (1919) seconded the grave errors committed by the Treaty of Bucharest.

“It is true that the great victorious powers imposed upon the governments of Serbia and Greece a treaty for the protection of minorities, which was supposed to guarantee the minimum of political, civil and national rights of the Macedonians. This treaty has now become as valueless as a scrap of paper. The Serbian and Greek governments instead of creating a normal regime in Macedonia as soon as they reoccupied the country after the great war closed by force more than 1,400 Bulgaro-Macedonian schools with 80,000 pupils and more than 4,000 teachers, which were devotedly supported and financed by the local population; seized the Macedonian churches. Libraries and cultural institutions; burned all Bulgarian books and killed or banished from the country all of the Macedonian intelligentsia. Nor was the fate of our other compatriots, Turks and Rumanians, in Macedonia a better one. The heavy fetters of the Serbian and Greek tyranny are to be found today on the doors of the closed Rumanian and Turkish schools and public libraries in Macedonia.

In addition to this policy of the Serbian and Greek governments, which is directed against the moral and intellectual institutions of the Macedonian people, following the practice of former Turkish governments, they began to use new means and methods in order to artificially change the ethnographic character of the country; they resorted to a policy of colonization. Today Serbian and Greek authorities deport the native Macedonian population, plunder their property and distribute same among colonists brought from Banat and Asia Minor. To have an idea of the terrible picture one must visit the thousands of recently arrived refugees, flying from Macedonia into Bulgaria, a country economically poor, and see their tortured bodies burned with hot irons or boiling oil.

There are two further reasons which aggravate the situation in Macedonia. First, there is a Serbian and Greek administration, whose

officers are alien to the people; notorious corruption and sheer force are the only rules in the country, and it seems that the whip is their constitution. One could find out proofs of this by reading Serbian and Greek newspapers. Secondly, the newly created political frontiers tore away the economic bonds between Macedonian cities and districts. Serbian Macedonia has no sea outlet and is gradually dying. Greek Macedonia has no "hinterland," while the remaining part of Macedonia – under Bulgarian authority – has neither sea nor any convenient land communications with the interior of that country, and for this reason, is in a worse condition. The principle economical and political center in Macedonia is Saloniki, which has all the advantages of prosperity, yet at present the city gradually, but certainly, is dying. Her people do not see any more the steaming boats, the commerce is dead and the merchants are leaving the town. Pathras and Pareas are rising on her ruins. Bitola, Prilep, Ochrid and many other towns are sharing the same fate.

Under such heavy conditions could the Macedonian people remain quiet? With their country torn into pieces could they forget the thousands of lives sacrificed for the liberty and independence of Macedonia, ever since the days of the Turkish regime? Who could deny the right of the Macedonian to struggle for existence? Who could forbid the Macedonians the fruit of their labors so that the latter may not be plundered by Serbian and Greek authorities and the Macedonian girls and brides may not be insulted by the same?

And the Macedonian did exactly as an American, Frenchman or an Englishman would have done. The whole people were frightened by the terror of the new tyranny and rose up to protest.

Banished from their own country, the Macedonians found refuge in Bulgaria, America, Turkey and Rumania, where they formed strong organizations whose aim is by legal means to obtain liberty for their country. The Macedonian emigrants in all lands, who number more than half a million souls, proclaimed their faith in the traditions of past generations and now appeal continuously to the human conscience of the civilized people in the world for the creation of Macedonia into a free country.

Old Revolutionary System.

Meanwhile in Macedonia proper, after denying the people all rights of carrying a legal political struggle or forming a national political group in the parliament of Belgrade and Athens, they resorted to the only possible action by creating anew the old secret revolutionary organization with its own postal service, courts, militia and efficiently

armed military forces, with its own educational and economic policy – in other words, representing a true state organization, mysterious, yet powerful and democratic in spirit, whose ideals are the creation of an independent Macedonia with equal rights for all of her different nationalities, with Saloniki as her capital.

The Macedonians are neither brigands nor breakers of the laws governing public order and safety, when they are ready to sacrifice their lives for the triumph of their ideals, when they gladly go to die in order to defend their wives and children, when they calmly meet death in order to save Macedonia. And in their struggle for right and freedom the Macedonians hope that they may receive the support of all civilized nations and all liberty-loving people.” (The Plateau Voice, Callbran, Messa County, Friday, September 5th, 1924, page 3)

No sooner was the team back than they left for the day without saying a word. I waited until it was quiet and then came out of the Delorean’s trunk. On the ground behind me I saw a piece of folded paper. It must be a message from TrueMacedonian. It read, “Urgent matter to attend to! Do nothing without me!”

The pro-Bulgarian article must have infuriated Tito, that’s why the team had to leave so early in the day. What other possible “urgent matter” could there be? I guess we won’t know until tomorrow!

Having nothing more to do there, I left for the night. There will be plenty more days for adventure.

Essay 7 – GREECE: MADE IN GERMANY

secret place where the Delorean was hidden. Even before I had a chance to greet him, the words, “What happened yesterday?” came out of my mouth! Wasting no time TrueMacedonian went on to tell me a long story about the Bulgarian and Greek involvement in the anti-Macedonian propaganda in the Diaspora. As he continued to talk, I decided to take notes particularly about the Greeks and their lies. In summary, this is what TrueMacedonian said;

[quote]“MODERN GREECE: MADE IN GERMANY

The new state did not attach itself to its immediate past, as it had been preserved in the popular memory, but rather adapted itself to the popular image of the ancient Greek past already created in the West. Otto's father, King Ludwig I of Bavaria, was obsessed with ancient Greece and brought up his children with the aspiration that one day one of them would reign over this glorious land (1).

The German obsession with the ancient Hellene city-states all began in the 18th century with a trickle through socialite circles and educational systems. Eventually this new cult of personality would take affect in the new land mass that would become known as Greece in 1821. In other words the Germans in effect created modern Greece and the modern Greeks on Romantic German Aryanist philology (2). It's the same Aryanism that Martin Bernal questioned in 1987 in which public passions were aroused by modern Greeks and scholars from around the world (3).

Writer Nikos Dimou stated the following in a recent NY Times interview;

“It's the fault of a German,” Mr. Dimou said about Greek pride in this cause. He was referring to Johann Winckelmann, the 18th-century German art historian whose vision of an ancient Greece “populated by beautiful, tall, blond, wise people, representing perfection,” as Mr. Dimou put it, was in a sense imposed on the country to shape modern Greek identity. (4)

He also goes on to say;

“We used to speak Albanian and call ourselves Romans, but then Winckelmann, Goethe, Victor Hugo, Delacroix, they all told us, ‘No, you are Hellenes, direct descendants of Plato and Socrates,’ and that did it. If a small, poor nation has such a burden put on its shoulders, it will never recover.” (5)

What eventually led to the wide-spread phenomenon of these Aryanist values was through the Science of Antiquity a school where the study of classical civilization forged the discipline of the fictional Hellenic model. Scholar Stathis Gourgouris wrote the following in his book *Dream Nation*;

“In practical terms, however, the historical absurdity of declaring Hellenic civilization the expression of a culture uncontaminated by foreign elements can be explained by a simple fact that usually tends to be disregarded - namely, that Hellenic civilization as we know it was in fact the invention of the ‘Science of Antiquity’, of classics. As such it could have been (and was) endowed with whatever signification the discipline found useful.” (6)

With western help modern Greece won its independence and was put under Bavarian monarchical rule under the newly crowned King Otto, King Of Greece.

If we go back in time to a place called Athens before it was made into the new “German made” kingdom what would we find hanging around the ruins? According to Edmond About close to the mid-nineteenth century "Athens, twenty five years ago, was only an Albanian village" and that "Athens has been rapidly peopled with men of all kinds of nations". He also goes on to say; “The Turkish village which formerly clustered round the base of the acropolis has not disappeared; it forms a whole quarter of the town....an immense majority of the population of this quarter is composed of Albanians.” (7)

Eventually the new Bavarian monarchy would remedy this situation in not just Athens but all of “German made” Modern Greece. The Albanians of Athens and whatever else the other rabble of races was did not fit the mold of what Wincklemann's fantasy manifested in Germany and Western Europe. In 1834, it was decided to make Athens the new capital of the Kingdom of Otto's Greece. A German architect, Schaubert, was employed to create wide streets, the squares, the boulevards: and so Athens, which in 1834 was a village of 5,000 inhabitants had become in 1936 a city of over four hundred and fifty thousand (8). In essence we see that Germans literally created Modern Greece from the ground up. But Athens was only one area.

What about Sparta?

According to our source, Edmond About, "New Sparta is a creation of King Otto, who has formed the useless project of resuscitating all the great names of Greece." (9) Of course Sparta was at one time not only an Albanian stronghold but a major settlement for the Slavic tribes that

entered the Balkans in the 6th century AD. Traveler Peter Edmund Laurent made his way through Slavo-Sparta before the war for independence broke out. He said; "From their manners, their features, and the names of many of the neighboring places, I should be tempted to regard them as proceeding from Sclavonian blood: many travelers pretend, however, to have discovered in these barbarous hordes traces of a Spartan origin. (10).

We can see why King Otto wanted to create New Sparta. Because Slavo-Sparta did not fit the Aryan German Hellenic ideal with all its Slavic place-names and uncouth manners.

But re-creating a dead ancient civilization from the ground up was not the only task King Otto had in mind. The Bavarian masters had the church of Greece declared independent from the ecumenical church of Constantinople. The newly found church of Greece was from the beginning a prisoner of the autocratic, Bavarian ruled Greek state (11).

According to historian William St. Claire German Made Greece "was essentially a Bavarian colony. (That Greece Might Still Be Free) 1-Discourses of Collective Identity in Central and Southeast Europe (1770-1945) Volume II, page 308, written by Mary Kitroeff, edited by Balazs Trencsenyi and Michael Kopecek

2 & 3-Cultural Intimacy: Social poetics in the nation-state, pages 106-07, by Michael Herzfeld

4 & 5- Elgin Marble Argument in a New Light By MICHAEL KIMMELMAN Published: June 23, 2009 NY Times - <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/24/arts/...q=AlbanianMarbles&st=cse&scp=1>

6- Dream Nation, page 134, by Stathis Gourgouris

7- Greece and the Greeks of today, pages 32 and 160, by Edmond About

8- In the Steps of St.Paul, page 304, by H.V. Morton

9- Greece and the Greeks of today, pages 21-22, by Edmond About

10- Recollections of a Classical tour, page 182, by Peter Edmund Laurent

11- Salonica Terminus, page 43, by Fred A. Reed [/quote]

As he continued to tell tales, I had to rudely interrupt him at the sight of Tito and the others appearing around the corner. "We will talk later," were the last words TrueMacedonian said to me before I hopped into the Delorean's trunk impatiently waiting for Tito's next destination.

Without saying a word to TrueMacedonian, Tito hopped aboard the Delorean and set the time dials for 1934. "We are going to Reno, Nevada, to June 25th, 1934." And with those words he pushed the activation button and swish in seconds we were there. Sure enough the

mission was a success because the next day I found the following article;

[quote] “THE CULT OF ALEXANDER

IT IS not only Mussolini who is harking back to the ancient Romans for a means of inspiring modern Italy, or Hitler who turns to the old-time Teutons to give a model for the modern German. Greece begins to realize that it has heroes of its own and now General George Condylis, minister of War at Athens places his candidate for adulation before the descendants of the old Hellenes. It is no less a person than Alexander the Great.

Condylis proposes to erect the ideal of Alexander into a real cult. A statue is to be raised to him at once in Athens, lectures have been organized at the university and schools, and the Alexandrian tactics and conquests are being studied as a means of giving the modern Greek some conception of what it meant to be one of his nations 2200 years ago.

Which is all very well, but the truth is that the ancient Greeks scarcely admitted Alexander to be one of their blood. He was a Macedonian. The Athenians fought against allowing his father to enter their territory and the orations against Philip delivered by Demosthenes are regarded today as the most magnificent specimens of oratory. They have given a name to denunciatory speeches – Philippics. Alexander, it is true, overcame all this but he had to conquer the real Greeks to do it. His phalanx was a Macedonian phalanx and not a Greek one. His lieutenants and successors were Macedonians and not Greeks, although they spoke Greek and worshipped Greek gods. And as for Macedonia, it is even yet an uncertain possession either of Greece or Bulgaria. It still tries to be independent.” [/quote] (Reno Evening Gazette, Reno Nevada, Thursday, June 26th, 1934, page 5)

Bravo Tito and the team! I know TrueMacedonian would not agree with the wording of this article, particularly the “implied” connection between the so-called “ancient Greeks” and the modern ones. I can just hear TrueMacedonian saying “There are no modern Greeks never mind being related in any way, shape or form to the so-called ancient Greeks. The modern Greeks are a modern philhellene manifestation. They are fakes and should have never been called Greeks. A better name for them would have been Arvanitovlachs, because that’s what they are!”

The team was back in no time and went off again, this time to Newark, Ohio, to May 31st, 1939.

Their mission was hardly worthwhile because the newspaper that was expected to carry a fantastic story only wrote the following;

[quote] “GREEK CHURCH PLANS SERVICES

Service next week in the Roumanian church, of the Greek Orthodox faith, was announced today. Service will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 9 a.m. and Sunday at 8 a.m. in the church at Wirlwood and Poplar avenues. In addition to morning session, a service will be held on Thursday at 6 p.m.

Rev. D. Justremicean of Detroit will conduct the services. It was announced that all Rumanians, Macedonians, Greeks, Bulgarians and Serbians are invited to attend.” [/quote] (The Advocate, Newark, Ohio, April 1st, 1939, page 3)

Bravo Tito and the team, yet again you managed to put together a story with the word “Macedonians” in the same sentence as the words “Greeks”, “Serbians” and “Bulgarians”. This is no April fools joke! Macedonians in Newark, Ohio? I thought “Macedonians” were “geographical” creatures, as some Greeks incessantly continue to claim, so why are they still called “Macedonians” in Ohio? Ah I get it! The preacher was inviting “ethnic Rumanians”, “geographical Macedonians”, “ethnic Greeks” and “ethnic Serbians” to his service. How silly of me!

The team was back again and ready for their last mission of the day. Tito announced the next destination and off we went.

The next day I found the results of this mission in the following story;

[quote] “BANDS OF GREEKS TERRORIZE MACEDONIANS

Yugoslav Charges

Allegations in Yugoslav newspapers that bands of Greek left wing guerrillas, under the command of General Zervas are making terror attacks against Macedonians have given rise to fears that international complications maybe in the making, says Associated Press Belgrade correspondent, - AAP.” [/quote] (The Argus, Melbourne, Australia, Wednesday, June 27, 1945, page 1)

Many hours had passed as I awaited the team’s return, which by now was way overdue. I couldn’t imagine what the delay could have been?

More hours passed and still no sign of them. By now it was dark and even if nothing was wrong, it was too late for the team to return. I did not dare move so I made myself comfortable in the Delorean’s trunk, preparing to spend the night there.

Essay 8 - Macedonian League

As I was rudely awakened by a metallic sound and a sudden flash of light, I felt stiffness in my neck and back and had a hell of a headache when the Delorean's trunk burst open and bright light flooded the narrow, shallow chamber. "Water, water," were the first words I uttered involuntarily as I attempted to focus my eyes on TrueMacedonian staring down at me. "Please help me out, I am stiff as a board and have one big headache," I explained as he offered his hand to pull me out. The next thing I remember was gulping down liquid from his bottle of water.

"It's morning the next day," TrueMacedonian explained without me having to ask. "We came back late last night and Tito insisted we all go home together for our safety so forgive me for leaving you in the trunk. I suspected you were asleep so I figured you would be safe until morning."

"So what happened?" I asked. "What delayed you?"

"Well, it's a bit embarrassing to say really, but let's say that Tito had a 'prolonged' date with one of his female friends who kept us busy way into the wee hours of the night.

Please stretch your legs now, go behind those bushes and let's get you back in the trunk before the others arrive. Here, I will leave you some food in the trunk so that you won't starve," TrueMacedonian instructed as I made my way towards the bushes.

I did as he asked and was back in the trunk just as the others were arriving around the corner.

"I know you all didn't get much sleep last night but that should not be an excuse for not doing your jobs professionally," bellowed Tito as he boarded the Delorean. I guess this was his way of "greeting" the team.

"This morning we are going to Massillon, Ohio, to Sunday, May 26th, 1935! Look alive," Tito commanded as he set the time dials and pushed the activation button.

Hmm, Sunday, it must be a special mission I thought, having no idea how special it would be until I read the next day's newspaper, "The Evening Independent";

[quote] "Macedonians to have convention

The Macedonian People's league will hold its fifth annual convention at the German-American hall. 834 Grant St., Akron. Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Approximately 100 delegates representing 36 groups in the United States and Canada with a membership of 1,200 will attend. Activities of the League will be discussed and a concrete plan for future campaigns in support of the struggle of the Macedonian people for a free Macedonia will be worked out.

Thursday, the central committee will give out its annual report. That evening at 8 o'clock a banquet in honor of delegates and guests will be held. One of the features of the convention will be a mass demonstration from Perkins square to Pleasant park against the national and social oppression of the Macedonian people by the governments of Yugoslavia, Greece and Bulgaria, Sunday at 2 p.m. Besides the delegates and guests, many Akron workers and immigrants from the Balkan organizations will take part in the demonstration. Prominent speakers will have addresses." [/quote] (The Evening Independent, Massillon, Ohio, Monday, May 27, 1935).

Macedonian People's league? I thought Macedonians did not exist before 1945. Was this an "ethnic" Macedonian People's league or a "geographical" one? What do you say Greeks?

Looking a bit lethargic the team returned and hurriedly left for its next mission. This time they went to New York, to 1940. The next day the following article appeared;

[quote] "Macedonian League Urges its Members to back U.S. Defense

Buffalo, Sept. 3. – Americans of Macedonian descent are urged in a resolution of the Macedonian People's League of the United States. The resolution, adopted at the closing session of the League's annual convention yesterday, also favors support for the national defense program 'as long as it does not encourage fighting abroad'.

Snearie Voyeanoss, Pontiac, Mich., was reelected national chairman, and Garry, Ind., was chosen for the 1940 meeting.

Other officers are George Pirinsky, Detroit, Mich., national secretary; Dr. George Popoff, Buffalo, Michael Jovaehess, Detroit, Mich., William Popoff, Garry, Ind., Thomas Tavgos, Massillon, O., and William Goushiess, Mediscon, DL., directors." [/quote] (Syracuse Herald Journal, Tuesday, September 3rd, 1940)

"Oh my they are back so quickly," was my reaction when the team returned but more surprising was my reaction when I heard Tito say that they were actually going to 'Athens' next. To Athens? Isn't that like entering the bear's den?

I didn't realize what Tito was up to until I read the following article the next day;

[quote] "GREEK ARMS

FLORINA OCCUPIED

AN AMBUSH

(Received November 22, 10 a.m.

Athens, 21st November.

The Greeks under the Crown Prince have occupied Florina (15 miles south-south-east of Monastir), intercepted the retreat of the Monastir army's rear guard.

Greek, Bulgarian and Servian officers at Salonika are warmly fraternizing.

Public fetes are being held.

Eight hundred wounded have arrived here from Salonika.

A Russian cruiser has hastily sailed for Jaffa in consequence of reported massacres of Christians.

A band of Macedonians ambushed 500 Turkish regulars in the Janina district, killing twenty four and wounding seventy seven. The rest fled." [/quote] (The Evening Post, Volume LXXXIV, Issue 125, November 22, 1912, page 7)

Nicely done team, you got a reporter to say "Macedonians" in the middle of Athens. Wow!

Being tired from lack of sleep the night before, Tito decided to give the team a break and called it quits a bit earlier than usual. I think it was more like Tito himself was tired and did not want to fall asleep and look unprofessional on the job.

"See you all tomorrow same time," were the last words I heard from Tito, which told me that the team was going home. I couldn't see my watch in the dark trunk so I waited a while until I was sure everyone was gone before I clipped the trunk door open. Wow, it was only 1 p.m. so I figured I would mosey along and go home when I heard footsteps approaching fast and heavy breathing coming my way. It was TrueMacedonian. He was truly back and in a hurry. Several days ago he promised me that he would return and here he was.

"I am so sorry I could not make it back the other days, things kept coming up and I had to postpone my return, but I am here now," explained TrueMacedonian as he tried to catch his breath. "Tonight we are going to rock the universe, you and I," he proudly announced.

"What did you have in mind?" I asked.

“How about we just talk tonight because I am very tired and will most likely fall asleep and probably fall off the time machine and get lost in time,” answered TrueMacedonian.

“You got it,” I said “What’s on your mind?”

“First, let me clarify something here,” he said. “This is not just a time machine this is a time machine and a matter-energy tele-transporter. This device will take you to the year you want to go and will tele-transport you to the location you want to go,” explained TrueMacedonian as he pointed at the controls on the dashboard of the Delorean.

“It sounds to me like a marriage between H. G. Wells and Gene Roddenberry,” I interceded.

“Exactly!” TrueMacedonian pointed out. “Now that we have all that sorted out, I would like to go home, if you don’t mind, and get some sleep. But before I do I would like to leave you with something, something that may shock you,” said TrueMacedonian!

“You have my undivided attention,” I answered as my curiosity peaked right off the curiosity meter scale!

“The time machine is not real, and Tito did not create the Macedonians,” explained TrueMacedonian. “We have been brainwashed by the Greeks to believe this crap so that they can distract us from finding the truth.”

“And what is the truth?” I asked.

“The truth is that Macedonians have always existed and are living in Greece today. Do you think Tito created those Macedonians? Did you know that these Macedonians have absolutely no human rights? The Greeks who are not even real Greeks, I will tell you more about that another time, in 1912 and 1913 invaded, occupied and annexed Macedonia illegally by war, kicked out as many Macedonians as they could, killed a lot of them, burned their homes and entire villages and forced the rest to become Greeks. Ever since then the Greeks have been abusing the Macedonians, changing their names, taking away their lands, discriminating against them and prohibiting them from speaking their language. And if that was not enough they prohibited them from calling themselves Macedonians and claimed no Macedonians ever existed. All Macedonian family names, toponyms, hydronyms, etc. were changed to remove all traces of the Macedonians. They even gave the Macedonians Greek sounding personal names and prohibited them from baptizing their children with traditional Macedonian names. But when they could no longer keep a lid on the Macedonians, the Greeks claimed that Tito somehow ‘magically’ created them.

What I am telling you is real, it is the truth, the rest is a façade designed to waste our time in trying to prove the obvious. Of course Macedonians exist but whether they exist or not, it should not be a matter for anyone except for the Macedonians themselves to decide. Only Macedonians can decide whether Macedonians exist or not, not their enemies the Greeks, Bulgarians and others.

As you very well know, the Greeks have illegally invaded, occupied and annexed Macedonian lands, 51% to be precise. They have taken Macedonian peoples' lands by force and without paying for them, which is unheard of anywhere else in the world, and now they will do anything; lie, cheat, discriminate and even claim Macedonians do not exist, to hide the truth and their crimes. This is real! What I am telling you is real, it is the truth.

There is a greater purpose that must be served, that we need to serve and that is to highlight the fact that Macedonians living in Greece today don't even have the most basic of human rights. For God's sake, they are not even allowed to call themselves Macedonians or speak their language; the language they learned from their mothers! What could be worse than that? And because they are Macedonians the Greeks discriminate against them even more and hate them because the Greeks know some day these Macedonians will be asking for their lands back. These lands have been given away and the only way to compensate for them will be to pay for them. And who is going to pay for them? Greece? Greece is broke. The burden will have to fall on European shoulders. No wonder Europeans hate us. They hate us because of what they have done to us, allowing Greece to abuse us for over a century. They should hate Greece, but Greece is their child, something they created in the 19th century, something we need to discuss in more detail later. Now I am getting very tired and need to go home and get some sleep. See you tomorrow."

And with those words, TrueMacedonian left for home, leaving me with a lot to think about.

Comments from our readers:

If we must believe we have to engage in any old rubbish about who "invented" the Macedonians with any of our appalling opponents, especially the Greeks, let me run some thoughts past you I have had of late and also what I think about the Tito thesis:

If Tito could have created a "Macedonian ethnic group" with a Macedonian language and history he was or is probably as good as any saint or miracle worker in the best religions of the world. So, let me repeat what I once proposed to our Greek friends on a moronic blog

site when I was still naïve and believed that the Internet could be a force for deliberative democracy: the Greeks should build and have consecrated by the Patriarch in Istanbul (no longer Constantinople, alas, for the day in 1453) a holy cathedral. Now this cathedral should be built in Greek-occupied Macedonia (Let us never forget since 1913) in honour of Saint Josip Broz Tito who performed the miracle of creating an ethnic group called "Macedonian". The reason for the "Greeks" (who "created" them, by the way?) consecrating such a cathedral "our Dedo" in historical Macedonian territory is that Modern Greeks can pray to Saint J B Tito with their usual fervour for a "Macedonian" ethnic group to be delivered to them which speaks Greek! (Incidentally, the fact that Tito was a communist and an atheist who used the excuse for his policies "Narodot" rather than "Boga" is just a point of historical detail-a saint must make the most of his opportunities.)

If anyone really wants to know who "created" the Macedonians let them consider the following line of argument: Aristotle the philosopher (384-322 BC) born in Stageira in the ancient kingdom of Macedonia had his mental or psychic structure formed by a Macedonian upbringing of the time. He became learned in every area of human knowledge in the Attic language (not called "Greek" at the time) in the city state of Athens. He has been the most extraordinary and most influential thinker in European civilization and beyond. Aristotle's thought and writings were rescued by brilliant Arab philosophers like Averroes, Avicenna etc., and his influence came into the medieval world via the Arabic language, then Latin, Spanish Castilian, etc., so he was a universal genius that could speak to humanity in all languages. His basic view was intellectualist: that through the use of reason human beings could find happiness. And yes, he was a Macedonian, not an Athenian, and I would choose him as my model rather than Alexander the Great and not just because I happen to have been born about 150 kilometers from Stageira in the middle of the 20th century. (Incidentally, Alexander the Great died at the age of 32 of alcoholic poisoning because the Macedonians and the "Greeks" were not convinced that he should be worshipped as a god - an idea about kingship that he keenly adopted from the more profound and complex cultures he had conquered in the East).

I think it is important to remind ourselves that the real world beyond the Balkan nationalistic propaganda fantasyland does not care about who the real descendants are from the "cradle of culture". So shoulder to the wheel let us again speak of the key priorities: human and national rights for the Macedonians in 2009. The justice and freedom that they are entitled to at present and should be striving for

are not even remotely connected to issues concerning antiquity or even Sveti Dedo Tito.

Although, I do commend the unmasking of the claptrap and hocus pocus of the nationalists-it is the positive stuff that should be foregrounded rather than the lies that every nation feels obliged to tell to bolster itself up as a legitimate entity.

Jim T.

Essay 9 - Macedonians Executed

As I turned the corner towards the “hiding place” the next morning, I could see TrueMacedonian from the distance pacing back and forth, preoccupied with his own thoughts. “Dobro Utro,” I called out as I passed through the haze in the dip on my way towards him.

“Dobro Utro,” he called out in a half squelched voice trying to keep quiet in case someone was lurking in the surrounding woodland. At this point TrueMacedonian stopped pacing and pulled out a well folded piece of paper from his pocket and handed it to me. “To save us time,” he said “I wrote down what I was going to say. So here it is, but please put it away and read it at your leisure.”

Unable to resist the temptation, and contrary to TrueMacedonian’s advice, I unfolded the piece of paper and began to read. Here is what he had written;

“Modern Greece: Made In Germany - Part II

<http://www.maknews.com/forum/general-discussions/modern-greece-made-in-germany-pt-2-t17083.html>

(‘It’s enough for the Greeks to mimic the Germans to regain what they once had.’) Ludwig Von Maurer, *Das griechische Volk* (1834).

Last we left off (Part I) reading about the affect that the Germans had on German Made Modern Greece. From Kingship to even Flagship today’s Neo-Hellene is the ultimate creation of what their German masters would have them be. Not to take away from the superstar of the nineteenth century Lord Byron, who catapulted the cause for their war for independence, but the Germans had him beat by a full century. They even went so far as to put Hellas into production before Greece existed as such. (1)

According to scholar Stathis Gourgouris ‘The force of this cultural pre-construction in Greece cannot be underestimated, considering especially that the sociopolitical conditions prevailing at the end of the War of Independence point to an irreducible social and cultural discontinuity, to a zero point in the operation of those significations that were conceivably to propel and uphold the images of a new national identity.....Thus, the recourse of the new image of Hellas (both as cultural construct and as social system) began immediately upon the brief rule of Governor Kapodistrias and became efficiently implemented with the takeover of the Bavarian monarchy and its explicit desire for centralization and Hellenization. In fact, the cultural image of a modern Greece was put into production with much greater

urgency than was a political-economic infrastructure, despite the obvious importance of the latter in a newly constituted State.' (2)

German manufacturing was in full effect before the inhabitants of Modern Greece even knew who Zeus was. What happened in Greece was the invention of a myth of nationality that provided, at the deepest level, a metaphysical rationale for life and death: a meaning for what would otherwise be our futile, meaningless existence. No matter if the myth took various forms, for any myth is always the sum of its many variations. (3)

The seeds were planted and German production plants were popping up everywhere in German Made Modern Greece. The University of Athens (1837-) was the first institution of higher learning in the new Kingdom and was founded by King Otto on the German model. (4)

A Bavarian even ensured that Otto's kingdom would come supplied with excellent lager beer available to all newly made Greeks - its originator's name 'Fuchs' having been Hellenized to 'Fix' which is still available today in Modern Greece. (5)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IU9IA_k0LnM

But we are missing the most important aspect of German manufacturing in modern Greece....the German made term 'Hellenism'. Hellenism, which was a term created by the German Johan Gustav Droysen, was the vehicle for expansionism spinning the wheels of the Megali Idea. The nationalist pseudo historian of the time was Constantinos Paparrigopoulos who was trying to put together the myth of an unbroken cultural descendent from ancient Hellas to German Made modern Greece. Unfortunately he faced much criticism from another German, believe it or not, named Jakob Phillip Fallmerayer.

Fallmerayer charged that the modern Greeks were not the descendents of the dead ancient race of Hellenes. In his opinion, and rightfully so, the modern inhabitants of Greece were a conglomeration of Slavs and Albanians and whatever else settled in the Balkans.

Paparrigopoulos had to not only prove the 'Megali Idea' valid, but he also had to prove Fallmerayer wrong. Unfortunately he could not connect the pieces together on his own.

In his works previous to the 1850's, ancient Macedonia was a distinct nation not related to the ancient Hellene city-states- 'the Macedonian nation accomplished, in the general history [of civilization], a different mission from that of the Hellenic nation'. (6)

Paparrigopoulos was at a cross road. He could not figure out how to by-pass or connect the time through the ages of Philip of Macedon and Alexander the Great and of the Roman empire, East Roman empire (Byzantine Empire) to modern times. Droysen ultimately gave

Paparrigopolous supposed weighty arguments that the ancient Macedonians were actually ancient Hellenes who supposedly spread Hellenic culture eastward with the reign of Alexander the Great. Droysen inspired in Paparrigopoulos a refined understanding and use of the theoretical principles of German historicism. (7)

Through Johan Gustav Droysen the pseudo historian Paparrigopoulos invented the fallacious term ‘Macedonian Hellenism’ and put the pieces together of an unbroken mythological culture that stretched back from millennia’s to modern times. And there we have it. Germans inventing everything neo-Hellenic for the neo-Hellenes.

But we are not finished here. There are many more things to bring up about German Made Modern Greece like their Flag, their early German law system, German made libraries, German centralized police, etc. All this modernization and the Germans still had to drag the Greeks, screaming, into the nineteenth century. (8)

There is so much more to expose yet you the reader would end up reading a book instead of a 5 minute synopsis.

However I will give one more myth a bit of exposure because what I've left out of this equation is that which blends into the myth the ‘continuation’ (German made Hellenism) that every Modern Greek is taught since birth. Every Modern Greek is taught from birth that he or she is the descendent of the dead race of ancient Hellenes. The proof is that they speak the same language (another false conception because the languages of the so called ‘ancient Greeks’ is not even close to the language taught to the Modern Greeks in school which anyone can learn, even someone of a different race and colour).

Historian Andrew Baruch Wachtel gives an explanation on where this sort of thinking originated;

‘In the Balkans...nations were created first, thanks to the hard work of a handful of European-oriented men; states for these nations came later. The model for Balkan nation builders therefore was not France, but rather Germany, where intellectuals carefully nurtured a sense of national consciousness well before the existence of a unified state. On the German model, the primary definition of a nation was linguistic: a nation was a nation (and could, therefore, hope for an independent political existence in the form of a state) insofar as its citizens spoke a common language. Although Balkan intellectuals and linguists tended to claim that a given language had already existed from time immemorial and thereby provided the necessary glue for a nation, this was generally not the case. Each putative language was in fact comprised of multiple dialects of equally ill-defined neighboring languages. Because the vernacular had been used for limited purposes since the Ottoman invasion, much work had to be done to transform

these languages into vehicles suitable for a full range of modern administrative, commercial, and cultural purposes.’ (9)

And Wachtel gives us a perfect example of how the modern Greeks utilized this German linguistic nation building process by explaining the work of one Grigorios Zalikoglou (most likely a Vlach) who goes on to write that their language is the same as the language of the ancient Hellenes. Wachtel writes;

‘Zalikoglou insists that modern and ancient Greek are the same language, though as the writer of a grammar he must have recognized that there are enormous differences between them. But because he needed linguistic continuity to buttress his claims for the historical continuity of the Greek nation, he overlooked this fact. Although he uses the language of race ('blood descendents'), he excludes anyone who does. Finally, language trumps any other potential marker of national identity - thus a Muslim would be considered Greek if he speaks the language, but a Turkish-speaking Orthodox Christian would not be, even if he could prove direct descent from Plato.’ (10)

Of course the rules changed later on with the Vlach Rigas Velenstinlis who asserted that any Orthodox Christian was a Greek.

From what we now know we can see the true nature of German Made Modern Greece and how they ultimately manufactured and newly assembled ethnic Greeks before the state Greece was even created.

‘Greece is the most artificial of all artificial nations that resulted from the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire.’ Yerasimos Kaklamanis (Analysis of Neohellenic Bourgeois Ideology, page 13).

Sources

- 1, 2- Dream Nation by Stathis Gourgouris pages 86-87.
- 3- Inventing Greece by David Bien; Journal of Modern Greek Studies - Volume 23, Number 2, October 2005, pp. 217-234.
- 4- Greece The Modern Sequel from 1821-Present by John S. Koliopoulos and Thanos M. Veremis page 164.
- 5- The Greek Passion, by Kenneth Young page 159.
- 6, 7- European historiographical influences upon the young Konstantinos Paparrigopolous, by Ioannis Koubourlis; The Making of Modern Greece, Edited By Roderick Beaton, David Ricks pages 59-60.
- 8- The Greek Passion, by Kenneth Young pages 158-159.
- 9, 10- The Balkans in World History, by Andrew Baruch Wachtel pages 77-78.

(They must find it difficult...Those who have taken authority as the truth, Rather than truth as the authority.) Gerald Massey, Egyptologist”

By the time I had finished reading what was inside this well folded and crumpled at the edges piece of paper, it was time for me to duck into the Delorean's trunk.

"I told you not to read it now!" exclaimed TrueMacedonian as he gently pushed the trunk shut with one hand while waving at Tito and the rest of the team approaching.

"You must be in a good mood this morning," Tito remarked to TrueMacedonian without saying good morning. "Let's see how you all hold out through the day today. We are going to Athens, to April 25th, 1947," remarked Tito as he boarded the Delorean in his usual style.

"A bold move," I thought to myself, which was a shocking understatement because the next day I read the following sad news;

[quote]"Macedonians Executed

ATHENS, April 25 (Reuters) – Twenty guerrillas were shot by a firing squad at Kozani, Western Macedonia, today after being sentenced for alleged membership in a 'Slav Macedonian armed band'. The organization was accused of autonomist activities in Macedonia. Seven communists were sentenced to death by a court-martial at Mytiline for activities endangering the state.

The Greek General Staff has filed an espionage charge against the management of the Athens newspaper Rizospastis, organ of the Greek communist party, which published an alleged top secret army report on the strength and organization of the guerrilla forces in Greece."
[/quote](The New York Times, April 26, 1947)

Saddened by the news I had just read, I was wondering if Tito was responsible for the death of all those people. Or perhaps he was only responsible for calling them "Macedonians" and had nothing to do with their deaths? Then I remembered TrueMacedonian's words that here in "fiction-land" nothing is what it seems. I convinced myself to stop speculating and wait for the team to return. Surely TrueMacedonian will have an explanation for this tragedy. Unfortunately my minutes of wait, turned to hours and no sign of the team. I couldn't help but wonder if Tito and the team were among those killed. Will I ever see TrueMacedonian again?

Essay 10 - Contested Landscapes

It was late at night the same day when I was suddenly awakened from my sleep inside the Delorean's trunk from shots being fired. It was Tito and the team returning in haste while being pursued by Greek fascists. The time machine was powered-up in record time and vanished before the Greeks could discover it. When we came back to our own time I could hear Tito fuming and scolding the team, particularly Marty, for not wearing the proper attire of the time.

"How stupid could you be, wearing running shoes made in the 1980's?" I overheard Tito say as the team left the Delorean and departed for the night. With shoes like that, the Greeks must have figured Marty to be some sort of spy. Oh well no matter, the important thing at the moment was the team was back, safe and sound.

Just as I was about to open the trunk I heard footsteps quickly approaching. "It is me, TrueMacedonian," I heard a muffled voice say as the Delorean's trunk flung open.

"Ah, you are a sight for sore eyes," I said. "I was worried about you guys. What happened?"

"Well, we were doing fine until Marty was spotted by a cop and then all hell broke loose," said TrueMacedonian. "We were late returning because all this time we were being chased and shot at by the police. Lucky for us these idiots were such poor shots they couldn't even shoot an elephant standing still. None the less it was dangerous and we took our time returning," explained TrueMacedonian. "But I did not come back to talk about our trip, there are more important things to discuss," said TrueMacedonian as he searched in his coat pocket for something.

"What could be more important?" I asked myself, unaware that I had spoken the words out loud.

"I will tell you what is so important as soon as I find it," said TrueMacedonian as he continued to search through one pocket after another.

"We can't even begin to comprehend what really happened in Greece in the nineteenth century, the kind of disease that was created by a bunch of overzealous Philhellenes," he said. "This is truly Frankenstein science at its best!" he continued as he pulled out a book and searched for a specific page. "Here, read this," he said as he handed me the open book.

Here is what I read;

[quote] “A number of scholars have described and analyzed the process of national identity formation following the creation of the Modern Greek nation state and the opposed visions of Hellas and Greece in Greek discourse (Kyriakidou-Nestoros 1978; Herzfeld 1982, 1989; Just 1989). As Herzfeld (1982, 1989) has pointed out, this opposition echoes the tensions between an outward-directed conformity to western powers’ expectations about what modern Greece was to be, and an inward-looking, self-critical collective appraisal. Both visions emerged in response to the regulating discourse formulated by Western political and intellectual powers, a body of representations accumulated from the Renaissance onwards, strongly oriented towards classical antiquity. As central agents in the construction of national cultural identity and the management of Greece’s archeological remains, national scholars took on the additional task of ‘convincing’ skeptical Western onlookers that the new state could fulfill its role as guardian of the heritage of the glorious past, thus claiming indigenous control over the idea of Greece and its identity.

The management and landscaping of monumental sites provided striking instances of interventions by the apparatus of modernity that work on the multiple layers of meaning inscribed onto landscapes through time, striving to rearrange these living palimpsests in ways that are deemed appropriate to the national project. And the Hellenic-centered ‘Purist’ vision (Greece as Hellas) held a key position in the discourses of the agents involved in such interventions.

When Athens was chosen as the site of the modern capital of the new nation, and its (re)construction was planned along lines of its purity, the unsettling evidence of Greece’s Ottoman heritage along with local vernacular forms had to be confronted, all the more so when situated in the immediate vicinity of remains of classical antiquity. Early nineteenth-century Athens was viewed as a ‘disgraceful sight’ (Boyer 1996: 163) full of imperfections, ranging from the city’s physical aspects to the spoken language, (2) that called for ‘filtering out’ interventions.

In the midst of this process, a group of rural immigrants employed – and this is one of the ironies of this story – in the neoclassical-inspired reconstruction of the capital proceeded from the 1860’s onward to build themselves a cluster of small houses just under the Acropolis of Athens. By the end of the nineteenth century their settlement, the Anafiotika, formed a permanent presence on the northeast slope of the sacred rock.

(2) Herzfeld (1989: 101, 22) explicitly links the language question to other forms such as architecture, music, dress, gesture, moral values, seeing them as domains where the issue of the double image of Greek

culture origins is played out.” [/quote](“Contested Landscapes Movement, Exile and Place”, edited by Barbara Bender and Margot Winer, page 23.)

“Read it again then perhaps you will truly begin to understand what happened there. It boggles the mind; most people cannot comprehend it and dismiss it as crockery, but crockery it is not! Modern Greece is truly artificial, perhaps the most artificial nation in the world; a well kept secret!” said TrueMacedonian as I stood there stunned, in disbelief.

I read the page again, as TrueMacedonian had suggested, and found new meaning in what was said. It was unbelievable!

“I myself am a product of this ‘new Greek creation’,” I said “being born in Greece and being indoctrinated into the Hellenic ideal from youth. But I would never have guessed that Greece was fake and that the lies were so deeply entrenched, especially down south in what we from the north call Greece proper,” I continued. “In northern Greece, where I was born, which should be referred to as ‘Greek occupied Macedonia’, we slid along calling ourselves ‘Greeks’ without questioning its meaning. To us, the so-called ‘Greek identity’ was as solid as a sphere made of solid steel; impregnable and untouchable. In Greek occupied Macedonia however it was different. We called ourselves Greeks because it was the safest thing to do but in private we couldn’t understand how we could be Greeks when none of us were really Greeks. It was comical! A couple of our neighbours, when inebriated and unable to keep their pants up, were the only ones boasting in public about how ‘Greek’ they were and how ‘Greek’ blood flowed through their patriotic veins; the same blood that flowed in Pericles and Plato. To us these were the real Greeks of the north, a bunch of idiots! And when the Bulgars had occupied our village these same idiots were then the most patriotic Bulgars calling themselves the true sons of the Khans. But this was Macedonia where we knew we were not Greeks or Bulgarians, but we had no idea it was the same all the way down to the tip of the Peloponnesus. We thought those who lived in the Peloponnesus were really true Greeks. But as it turns out, we were very wrong!” I said as I again read the page in disbelief.

“So there you have it!” said TrueMacedonian, “but you ain’t seen nothin yet! There are hundreds of books like this one where the truth is separated from fiction and what happened and the madness that took place in the nineteen century is exposed! Now these neo-Greek ‘lost souls’ have become our teachers and baptizers, telling us who we are and what to call ourselves! How insane!” said TrueMacedonian and after a long pause he declared he was very tired and wanted to go home and get some sleep.

“Tito will be on my case all day tomorrow if I don’t look and act sharp, so I need to go home and get some sleep. See you early tomorrow morning,” were TrueMacedonian’s last words before he departed for the evening.

It was time for me to go home too. It was very late at night and would probably take me forever to fall asleep, pondering the shocking things I had just learned today.

Essay 11 – Greece Executes Macedonians

The next morning I was first to arrive at the usual hiding place. It was early in the morning and I was happy to witness the first rays of the sun burning their way through the low fog on the distant horizon. It doesn't matter how many times I have witnessed the crack of dawn, each experience is unique and has its special magical moments.

I didn't get any sleep all through the night as I pondered how in God's name could a few people in the world have pulled off such a scam as to convince the rest of the world that Greece was populated by Greeks who were supposedly the true descendants of the Ancient Greeks, when none of this was true?

Then blinded by my gaze at the first rays of the rising sun, I overheard a familiar voice behind me saying, "I knew I would find you here. I too could not sleep thinking of the damage some people have done to us by this artificial creation of Modern Greece."

I said, "Dobro utro TrueMacedonian, it's nice to see you too." It was almost as if the two of us were sharing the same thoughts subconsciously. We both skipped the pleasantries and got down to serious discussions about the business that was worrying us both.

"If there are indeed hundreds of books, as you pointed out, that speak of the truth about the Modern Greeks, and I have no reason to doubt you, then why have so many modern historians missed the point about who the Modern Greeks truly are?" I asked.

"Modern Greeks today would argue that over 250 classical scientists can't all be wrong," responded TrueMacedonian "but to understand how this could be I will use the 'flat earth' analogy to explain the situation which often helps me understand why things are the way they are."

"A long, long time ago people believed the earth was flat. There was plenty of evidence to suggest and support that theory so naturally word got around and everyone started believing that the earth was flat. But as mathematics, science and technology became more and more sophisticated, some people, a small minority mind you, began to see the earth in a different light. Eventually some got enough nerve to speak up about it and even dared to contradict the majority who supposedly 'knew for a fact' that the earth was flat. I can almost hear the counter arguments made by the mainstream scientists to the 'preposterous' claims of these 'heretics' that the earth was anything but flat. 'Why if the earth was round, as my esteemed colleague claims, wouldn't we all be falling off it? Then how do you explain the fact that to this day no one has fallen off it?' In those days they burned alive those who spoke contrary to what was believed to be 'the truth'. Of course today we

know the earth is round and what the majority in those days believed was actually a lie. But the difference between the ‘flat earth’ theory and the theory of the Modern Greeks being direct descendants of the ancient Greeks is that people did not know enough about the earth to know that it was not flat. On the other hand people did have enough evidence to prove that the Modern Greeks were not even remotely related to the ancient Greeks, yet they chose to ignore that evidence and instead purposely propagated a lie! A lie that was repeated so many times it became far stronger than the truth” continued TrueMacedonian as I listened intently to every word he said.

“Why should modern historians write about the Greek ugly dark truth and risk being ridiculed and ostracized when they can write about the bright shining glaring lie and be praised. There is much to think about here and as the evidence against this ‘Greek theory’ mounts, history will be reexamined and revolutionized but not before we expose it all. If the Modern Greeks are a lie, then how many more lies have there been perpetrated to give support to the original lie? Could the idea that the ancient Macedonians were Greeks also be another big Greek lie? Of course it is! The only reason Modern Greeks make that claim is so that they can also lay claim to the Macedonian heritage and rob the Macedonians of it. If the Modern Greeks are a mongrel race not at all related to the ancient Greeks, then ask yourself, what chances are there of them being related to the ancient Macedonians, who were a totally different people from the so-called ancient Greeks? I would say none whatsoever! Today’s Greeks are not at all what they say they are. They are nothing but a hodge-podge of modern Balkanites who lost their true identities and now go on pretending to be the direct descendents of the ancient people who died on those lands two and a half millenniums ago. Not knowing who they are themselves they now have the nerve to tell us who we are and who we are not!” continued TrueMacedonian.

“So, what are we racking our brains to prove here?” I dared ask.

“If you wish to view the problem from a purely scientific point of view then ‘why must we continue to believe in lies when we know the truth’? Why protect this ‘lie’ perpetrated a long time ago when we have evidence to put it to rest? Why must we pretend that the ‘earth is flat’ when we all know it is not?” asked TrueMacedonian with a serious tone in his voice.

“If you wish to view the problem from ‘the Macedonian point of view’ then as Macedonians with much to lose why must we keep silent about the truth? We lost our lands, our homes, our language, our culture to the Greeks and now they deny our identity. They publicly and to our face say we don’t exist. Is it not our duty to speak up? Is it not in our personal and national interest to expose the Greeks and their fake

identity? Only by shouting the truth can we expose the lies and injustices perpetrated against us, not only by the fake-Greeks but also by their supporters,” continued TrueMacedonian, unaware of the passing of time evident by the distance the sun had risen above the horizon.

“The fake-Greeks have used history against us, a history that does not belong to them, and have for a century now got away with it. It is time to expose these fake-Greeks and what they stand for. It’s time to expose the acts and atrocities they perpetrated against us in the name of Hellenism, something that does not even belong to them, acts committed against us purely for their personal benefit!” said TrueMacedonian as he gestured for me to disappear into the Delorean’s trunk when he saw Tito and the others appear at the edge of the bushes.

“Look alive men, we are going back to Athens, to June 7th, 1947,” were the only words Tito uttered that morning as Doc powered up the Delorean’s engines and Marty and TrueMacedonian hopped aboard in the back seat. No sooner had Tito slammed the door shut than the Delorean was on its way to Athens.

“Back to Athens eh? I guess they still have unfinished business there,” I thought to myself.

The next day the following story appeared;

[quote]“Greece Executes 8 Macedonians

ATHENS. June 7 (Reuthers) – Eight Macedonian civilians sentenced to death by a court-martial on charges of plotting to separate Macedonia from Greece were shot at Salonika today. They were said to have been members of a ‘terroristic’ Slav organization.” [/quote](The New York Times, June 8, 1947).

Again, it was a sad story for the Macedonian people not only because these people died but also because they died in vain to fulfill some sick Greek fantasy that Macedonians actually had the capability to “separate” Macedonia from Greece? If Macedonia is Greek and always has been Greek and the Macedonians are Greeks and always have been Greeks as the Modern Greeks claim at every chance they get, then why would the Macedonians want to separate Macedonia from Greece? It’s a simple and straight forward question! Could it be “Greek anxiety” causing this Greek paranoia? Could it be because these fake-Greeks actually stole Macedonia from the Macedonians and are now afraid that the Macedonians may want it back?

As I asked myself question after question, deep in my thoughts, Tito and the team had already returned and had gone off to the next

mission. I only remembered this because my subconscious mind was working overtime repeating the words “Athens, July 28, 1896” to my conscious mind.

The team was already gone to the next mission before I fully awakened from my dream-like stupor. Did I imagine all this? Just to be sure, I went straight to the New York Times, July 29th, 1896. Lately Tito was targeting the New York Times so it was a safe bet to start with that paper. As I found out, I was not disappointed.

Here is what it said;

[quote] “CHRISTIAN VILLAGES BURNED.

Greece Notified that She Must Not Assist the Macedonians.

LONDON. July 28. – The Daily News will to-morrow publish a dispatch from its Athens correspondent stating that the Mussulmans have burned twelve Christian villages in the province of Selino and Herakleon and desecrated many churches.

The Standard will to-morrow publish a dispatch from its correspondent in Berlin saying that the powers have notified Greece that they will withdraw all support from her if she continues to patronize or assist the insurgents in Macedonia.” [/quote] (New York Times, July 29, 1896)

Did they mean “ethnic” or “geographical” Macedonians? It is so confusing to understand “Greek logic” especially when it comes out of the fake-Greeks in Athens.

The team was back, preparing for its next mission when I overheard Tito mumble the words, “We are going to Athens again to March 4th, 1897.” Tito mumbling? What’s wrong with the guy? Is he getting overtired from lack of sleep? Oh well, it’s the team’s last mission of the day and then we will all get to go home and get some rest.

The team was back and gone home in a flash as I looked for the next day’s paper.

Here is what I found;

[quote] “GREECE READY FOR WAR.

She will yield to no admonition from the powers.

PARIS. March 4. – It is reported that the Government is making preparations to order the mobilization of the Mediterranean reserve squadron, which will be sent to the Levant, under command of admiral Humann.

Le Jour publishes a dispatch from its correspondent at Athens containing a report of an interview with King George of Greece, in which his Majesty declares that Greece is ready for war with Turkey, and would yield to no admonition from the powers.

The King is reported to have added that the powers might blockade Greece, but in the interior they would be powerless. The Greeks, he said, were fully prepared to fight to the death, and the Macedonians were eager to revolt.” [/quote] (New York Times, March 5, 1897).

Tito, it must be nice to manipulate the media in such a way! Revolt, revolt! Who is revolting, the “ethnic” or “geographical” Macedonians? Let the fake-Greeks explain this!

By now I too was very tired and it was time for me to also go home.

Essay 12 – GREEKS BETRAY MACEDONIANS

Anxious to meet up with TrueMacedonian, I arrived early at the usual place the next morning only to find Tito pacing back and forth, looking at his watch and swearing and cursing. “Where are they? I told them to come earlier,” he kept repeating. With Tito there what was I to do? How could I board the Delorean unseen?

After pondering my situation for a while, it occurred to me that I should somehow distract Tito and then board the Delorean before the others arrive. But how could I do that? As I slowly snuck through the woodland and came as close to the Delorean as possible without being seen, it occurred to me to throw a rock behind the bushes. When Tito turned around and went to investigate the noise, I quickly snuck into the trunk and quietly closed the hatch behind me. And just in time too because as the others arrived I overheard Tito scolding them for being late. “There’ll be more about this later,” he said “I don’t have time to deal with you now. We are going to Constantinople, to March 13th, 1897,” were Tito’s orders as the time machine swished its way to the next destination.

The next day I discovered the following piece in The New York Times;

[quote] “MACEDONIANS AND TURKS FIGHT

LONDON, March 13. – A dispatch from Constantinople states that fighting has occurred near Gravena between a number of Macedonian insurgents and a body of Turkish troops. Details of the fight are lacking.” [/quote] (New York Times, March 14, 1897)

No sooner had the team left than they were back again and according to Tito’s instructions were going to Constantinople again but this time to May 11, 1901.

It must be nice, I thought to myself, to be able to plant seeds and see the fruits grow in a matter of minutes. Isn’t time travel wonderful?

The next day I checked the New York Times and discovered the following;

[quote] “Wholesale Execution of Macedonians.

VIENNA, May 11. – A dispatch from Constantinople announces the wholesale shooting of revolutionary Macedonians, including women. Twenty-four persons were executed at Monastir, fourteen at Beria, eighteen at Iating, eighteen at Seres and twenty-nine at Uskab.” [/quote] (New York Times, May 12, 1901)

Again with the sad and devastating news! Why can't we have some good news for a change? Is it too much to ask? The team was back and off again, unfortunately in my state of thought, pondering the sad news I missed the first part of Tito's orders and only heard that we were going to March 21, 1902.

The next day I checked The New York Times for March 22, 1902 and discovered the following piece;

[quote] "SERIOUS REVOLT IN ALBANIA

Rebels said to be masters of town of Yanina – fighting between Turkish troops and Macedonians.

LONDON, March 22. – According to the Rome correspondent of the Daily Mail, the Italian consul at Yanina, southern Albania, has sent news of a serious revolution in Albania. The governor's palace at Yanina was attacked and several gendarmes were killed. The revolutionaries are masters of the town.

The consul says further outbreaks have occurred at Berat, Paramythia and Avlona and that the revolution is spreading throughout Albania.

The correspondent of The Morning Leader in Vienna reports a conflict between Turkish troops and Macedonian revolutionists at Sistova near Kastoria. The Turks surrounded the village and overcame the rebels. In the course of the fighting four Macedonians and two Turks were killed and twenty-six of the rebels were wounded.

All the male inhabitants of the village were arrested. [/quote] (The New York Times, March 22, 1902)

As I finished reading the third article I realized that the team had already been on three missions today and should be going home next but when I looked at my watch it was too early to go home.

The team was back again and instead of going home Tito had another mission in mind. "We are going to Athens," he said "to March 30th, 1902".

I see! That's why Tito wanted the team there early, so it could go on an extra mission. But why go on an extra mission?

I got my answer the next day when I read the following piece in the March 31st, 1902 New York Times newspaper;

[quote] "GREEKS BETRAY MACEDONIANS.

Threatened Outbreak This Spring Will Probably Be Prevented – Montenegrins To Invade Turkey?

London Times, New York Times Special Cablegram

LONDON, March 31. – A dispatch to The Times from Athens says the grave situation in Macedonia and Albania causes considerable uneasiness. It is thought that the propaganda from the Macedonian committee in Bulgaria is somewhat discredited among the wealthier classes, owing to the crimes and extortion connected with it. Still, the physical force party, which may be compared to the Fenian section of the Irish Nationalists, continues to follow the lead of President Sarafof who has planted a general rising of the Christians in the coming Spring. The dispatch says the overtures made in Athens and Belgrade have not been found tempting and that the Greeks have disclosed the scheme to Turkey. This, in conjunction with a strong military precaution being taken, will probably prevent the threatened outbreak. Improvement, however, is impossible without reform, and the Sultan's personal fears and the disunion of the European powers make the prospect of reform remote." [/quote] (The New York Times, March 31, 1902)

This particular mission took a little longer than expected, I guess the team has learned to be extra cautious when traveling in Athens. None the less the team was back in time to get a good night's sleep.

It's late already, there is no point in me waiting for TrueMacedonian to return I thought as I exited the trunk. "But! What? How?" were the only words I could muster in my startled state as I found TrueMacedonian standing beside the Delorean.

"I am sorry to have startled you," he said "but I never left the Delorean. I stayed here all the time as the others disappeared over the horizon, unaware that I wasn't with them."

Before I could muster another word, TrueMacedonian said he had something for me to read. He rummaged through his deep pockets and pulled out a book with a book mark stuck in it.

"Ah, here it is," he said. "Read this page and tell me what you think?"

Here is what I read;

[quote] "The Greeks had not taken much interest in their past until Europeans became enthusiastic discoverers and diggers of their ruins. And why should they have cared? The Greeks were not Greek but the illiterate descendents of Slavs and Albanian fishermen, who spoke a debased Greek dialect and had little interest in the broken columns and temples except as places to graze their sheep. The true philhellenes were the English – of whom Byron was the epitome – and the French, who were passionate to link themselves with the Greek ideal. This

rampant and irrational philo-Hellenism, which amounted almost to a religion, was also a reaction to the confident dominance of the Ottoman Turks, who were widely regarded as savages and heathens. The Turks had brought their whole culture, their language, their Muslim religion and their distinctive cuisine not only here but throughout the Middle-East and into Europe as far as Budapest. The contradiction persists even today: Greek food is actually Turkish food, and many words we think as distinctively Greek, are in reality Turkish – kebab, doner, kofta, meze, teramasalata, dolma, yogurt, moussaka, and so forth; all Turkish.” [/quote] (“The Pillars of Hercules”, by Paul Theroux, page 316)

After reading the text I was speechless. All I could think of was the nerve of those Modern Greeks calling the Macedonians artificial. “Artificial, who is artificial, don’t they know their own history?” I blurted out as TrueMacedonian nodded, understanding what I was talking about.

“Think about it,” he said. “But don’t let it boggle your mind. I have to go now because I am sure Tito will be on my case tomorrow if I don’t get some sleep.” And with those words, TrueMacedonian left, leaving me to think about what I had just read!

Essay 13 – MASS MEETING OF MACEDONIANS

Fearing that Tito might show up early again, the next day I got to the hiding place bright and early and entered the Delorean's trunk so I would be out of sight. It seemed like hours had passed before I heard voices. The entire team showed up together. Tito hates to wait so he must have had the team assemble early in the morning and left for the Delorean after everyone was there.

I wondered if Tito had discovered that TrueMacedonian was missing after the team had left the previous night? Then I overheard TrueMacedonian explain that the only reason he had stayed behind was because he was anxious to read parts of his book as soon as possible. And of course he didn't exactly lie about that except for the fact that it was me and not him who was reading the book.

"Next time you feel like doing that it wouldn't hurt if you let me know!" Tito declared as he slammed the Delorean's door and began to adjust the time machine dials. "We are going to Vienna, April 7, 1902," he said as he pushed the time activation button.

The next day the following article appeared in The New York Times;

[quote] "MACEDONIANS WELL ORGANIZED

Have Even a Postal System of Their Own – They Have Received Donations from Abroad.

London Times – New York Times Special Cablegram

LONDON, April 8. – The Macedonian revolutionists are not concerned in regard to the convenience of Europe, says the Vienna correspondent of The Times. Sarafof (the Macedonian leader) deliberately says that it is beyond the power of Austria or Russia to interfere.

The correspondent says that Sarafof's methods strongly resemble those of the anarchists, as they consist of terrorizing the defenseless population while the Turkish troops are carefully avoided. The revolutionists are admirable organized, having even an efficient postal service of their own. They have received donations from foreign sympathizers, and are likely to do more mischief before they are suppressed." [/quote] (The New York Times, April 8, 1902)

The team was back and off again this time to Sofia, Bulgaria, to February 15th, 1903, where many Macedonians were expected to

gather. I didn't realize how many that could be until I read the following clip the next day;

[quote] "MASS MEETING OF MACEDONIANS

SOFIA, Feb. 15. – A mass meeting of 10,000 Macedonians was held here to-day to protest against the action of the government in dissolving the Macedonian Committees in Bulgaria. The meeting demanded the re-establishment of the Macedonian societies and the judicial punishment of individual offenders.

It is reported that warrants are out for the arrest of Boris Sarafof, Yankof, and other Macedonian leaders.

Sarafof is said to be now in Macedonia organizing a revolt. Several arrests of Macedonian leaders have been made in provincial towns. The government will prosecute the arrested men." [/quote] (The New York Times, February 16, 1903)

Ten thousand Macedonians in Bulgaria? Did Tito "create" that many Macedonians in one day? And were they "ethnic" or "geographical" Macedonians? Let's see how the Greeks will handle this one?

If Macedonians did not exist and if all these people were 'ethnic' Bulgarians as the Greeks like to claim, and if they were fighting for a 'Greater Bulgaria', then why did the Bulgarian government have them arrested, I wondered as the team came back and was off again, this time to Geneva, to March 1st, 1903.

The next day the following short article appeared in The New York Times;

[quote] "SEVERE FIGHTING BETWEEN TURKS AND MACEDONIANS.

Turks Repulsed With Heavy Loss Near Monastir – Sultan's Reform Order Regarded as a Trick.

LONDON, March 2. – The Geneva correspondent of The Daily Chronicle telegraphs that news has been received there of an engagement between Turkish troops and bodies of Macedonians and Bulgarians near Monastir.

The Turks suffered a repulse. After the fighting thirty-two dead and many wounded were found." [/quote] (The New York Times, March 2, 1903)

Bravo Tito, you managed to insert the words 'Macedonians and Bulgarians' in the same sentence! I would very much like to see how

our Modern Greeks today are going to explain this one. How many lies will be told to cover up the original Big Greek Lie?

Speaking of Big Greek Lies, after the team departed for the night I came out of the Delorean's trunk and discovered a crumpled piece of paper on the ground. I smoothed it out and found it was a photocopy of a page from a book.

TrueMacedonian must have left it behind for me to find, I thought as I began to read it.

Here is what it said;

[quote] “Argolida has been continuously settled since ancient times. Since the Mycenaean era, it has been under the continual occupation of successive empires and states, from the city-states of ancient Greece through Rome and Byzantium, the Venetians, Ottomans and finally the modern Greek state. Successive waves of conquerors and immigrants have all left their mark. Today the area is widely considered to be the heartland of modern Greece. The revolution that led to the founding of the modern Greek state in 1821 was centered in the Peloponnese, and Nauplio became its first capital. Since then, the construction of Greek national identity has tended to efface processes of social differentiation. The institutions and ideology of the Greek nation-state have sought to project an unproblematic narrative of Greek history stretching back to ancient times (Herzfeld 1982). Despite these efforts, however, it is difficult to document a continuous lineage of ‘Greek’ identity. Instead what we find is a history of confrontation, contradiction and assimilation among contentious social groups and ethnic identities. The notion of a ‘Greek’ identity in the modern sense is itself in large part a creation of the movement towards statehood. It was not until the nineteenth century that the term came to describe a homogenous ethnic group in the modern sense. Instead, the peoples of the Peloponnese, including Argolida, made up an intricate mosaic of ethnicities and languages. In Argolida dialects of Albanian, Greek, Turkish and other local languages were spoken (Andromedas 1976). From the Byzantine Empire and onwards, religion was an important marker of social identity. The Byzantines were Greek speakers, but they associated the Greek language with Christianity rather than ancient Greece, and in fact ethnically defined themselves as ‘Romans’, a term carried over to the Ottoman Empire as ‘Rum’ meaning Orthodox Christians.” [/quote] (“Blood and Oranges Immigrant Labour and European Markets in Rural Greece”, by Christopher M. Lawrence, page 12)

At the bottom of the page there was something handwritten which read;

-IKNT-C-U-4-4-TO-5-DYS-

It didn't take me too long to realize that this was not the ISBN number of the book but rather a coded message for me which I read to mean: I can't see you in the next four to five days. I assume because of the previous day's incident Tito might have been getting suspicious of TrueMacedonian being up to some of his own 'extra curricular activities' after the missions. So I gather he was going to 'lay low' for the next four to five days, just to throw off any suspicions, which was fine by me.

Essay 14 – Macedonians burned to death

Knowing that I could not speak with TrueMacedonian and worried that Tito might show up earlier than expected, the next morning I boarded the Delorean's trunk as soon as I arrived at the hiding place. As I sat there in silence it occurred to me that one of these days someone might want to use the trunk and I would be discovered. As I contemplated such a scenario I began to explore the inside of the trunk with the aid of my handy flashlight and lo and behold I discovered a hidden, zippered compartment on the right side on top of the back wheel. As I unzipped the flap I discovered it was not only big enough so that I would fit but it was straight and I would not have to crouch. Why didn't I do this earlier, I wondered as I got in and began to zip-up the fold. Ah, this is perfect and on top of being comfortable, I was hidden from sight and was getting fresh air from the outside through the special intake grilles. This compartment must have been used for storing operational equipment before the upgrades to the Delorean were made.

Tito and the team arrived at the usual time and as usual Tito barked his next orders and the destination of their first mission. "This morning we are going to Vienna, to October 14, 1903," remarked Tito as he adjusted the time control dials and pushed the activation button.

The next day I went through all the papers but could find nothing on the mission for October 15, 1903. Then it occurred to me to look in the October 14, 1903 newspapers starting with The New York Times. This is what I found;

[quote] "MACEDONIANS NEAR THE SEA

London Times – New York Times Special Cablegram.

London, Oct. 14. – The Times's Vienna correspondent says that according to *Politsche Corespondenz* the insurgents in Sunjak, Seres are rapidly nearing the southern seacoast at Kavala." [/quote] (The New York Times, October 14, 1903)

Tito and the boys must have caught the correspondent early in the morning and had him release the news the same day. How is that for fast service even in 1903?

As soon as the team was back, the boys were off again, judging from the evidence, this time to Rome, to September 26, 1915;

[quote] "Special Cable to The New York Times

ROME, Sept. 27. – Another great conflagration in the Balkans is unavoidable. Many Balkan exiles living in Italy, especially Greeks, Macedonians and Bulgarians are speeding home via Brindisi and Messina.

Another sign of the gravity of the situation is the fresh severity of the censorship in the Balkan countries practically allowing only the transmission of official news. [quote] (The New York Times, September 27, 1915)

No sooner had they left than they were back again so I figured Tito would go for an extra mission. Then I overheard him say, “We are going to Sofia, to November 6th, 1903.

That winter was particularly bad for the Macedonian people given that their Uprising along with their hopes and worldly possessions were just crushed by the Ottomans. I was not looking forward to reading about this mission at all. But then when I did find the article, I was pleasantly surprised. Here is what it said;

[quote] “EMPEROR AIDS MACEDONIANS

Francis Joseph Gives 10,000f. for the Refuges in Response to an Appeal by Princes Clementine.

London Times – New York Times Special Cablegram.

LONDON, Nov. 7. – The Sofia correspondent of the Times says Emperor Francis Joseph gives 10,000f. in aid of the Macedonian refugees. The donation was in response to an appeal by Princes Clementine of Belgium (Countess Lonyay, who was the wife of the Crown Prince Rudolf) and was accompanied by an autographed letter. The munificence of the Emperor is much appreciated in Sofia. The princess, who has been deeply touched by the sufferings of the unfortunate exiles, has addressed letters to several of her august relatives invoking aid and has contributed large sums from her private purse.” [quote] (The New York Times, November 7, 1903)

The team was back again and I was right, it went for yet another mission. “Sorry to disappoint you boys but we are not going home, we are going for one more mission,” announced Tito without specifying where they were going. Knowing that I would be, concerned TrueMacedonian piped up and said, “Where are we going? Aren’t you going to tell us?”

“We are going to Sofia again but this time to January 19, 1908” replied Tito.

The next day I looked through the January 19, 1908 newspapers only to find the dreaded news in the following article;

[quote] “OUTRAGE BY GREEKS

Macedonians Driven into Houses and Burned to Death.

SOFIA, Bulgaria, Jan. 19. – News has reached here of a terrible tragedy at the village of Dragosch, near Monastir, a town in Macedonia, several days ago.

While a festival was in progress and the villagers were dancing upon the lawns in the public park, a large band of Greeks suddenly swooped down upon them and after driving them into their houses, set fire to the buildings and burned them to death.

The victims included women and children and numbered, it is said, between twenty-five and forty-five. [/quote] (The New York Times, January 20, 1908)

Why must Tito make the last mission the worst mission of the day? Everyone was very quiet when they arrived and left for home. It was expected after that mission!

When it was quiet outside I worked my way out of the Delorean’s side compartment, having to work the stuck zipper a couple of times. I was used to popping out of the trunk so I was on my feet in seconds, ready to make my way back to my place when I noticed a crumpled piece of paper on the ground. It must be another message from TrueMacedonian.

Here is what it said;

[quote] “Angolida, like the coastal areas of the Peloponnesos in general, has a long history of invasions and immigration due to the economic significance of the area and its location along the eastern Mediterranean trade routes. The three villages of Agia Triada, Manesi and Gerbisi all trace their history back to the decline of the Byzantine Empire. The original name of Agia Triada was Merbeka, probably derived from the surname of the Catholic bishop of Corinth during the Frankish crusader state, Wilhelm von Moerbeke, who established the Deocesan seat there in 1277 (Salapatas 2000). It is mentioned in a census of 1700 as containing thirty families and 157 residents. In 1817 it is listed as having 160 residents. In 1834, Merbeka was incorporated as a town (dimos) with a population of 320 (Skiadas 1993). Gerbesi and Manesi both seem to have been founded in the sixteenth century when the area was under Venetian control. Both names apparently refer

to immigrant Albanian soldiers working for the Venetians that also appear as names of villages in what is today as southern Albania (Mauros 1980). Albanian speakers moved into Argolida in several waves in the next centuries, creating differences that are perceived today. Residents of Garbesi are thought to share lineage with the people of Limnes, a village some 20 kilometers away, while the villages of Prosomni and Arachneo are thought to represent a later immigration. Residents of Garbesi often cite this history in explaining inter village differences and conflicts. In the early 1950's the names of Merbeka and Garbesi were changed to the more 'Greek sounding' Agia Triada (meaning Holy Trinity) and Midea (from the Mycenaean site), the culmination of a long process of cultural homogenization initiated by the emergence of the modern Greek state in 1821. Manesi, for unexplainable reasons, was allowed to keep its Arvanitiko name." ["/quote] ("Blood and Oranges Immigrant Labour and European Markets in Rural Greece", by Christopher M. Lawrence, page 13)

Essay 15 – Insurgents take oath

As I awoke the next morning I noticed it was already light outside. Then I remembered I had not set the alarm on my clock the night before. Not knowing what to do I decided to ride my bicycle to the secret spot in hopes of getting there faster, before Tito and the team arrived. To be safe I left the bicycle in the woods and took a shortcut through the wooded area, only to find that I was too late. The Delorean had departed, disappeared, left without me. I hung around for a while, hiding in the woods and hoping that the team might return and somehow I could sneak into the time machine unnoticed. But who was I kidding, how could I do that? I decided to call it quits and left for home.

I sat around all day brooding, wondering how I could have been so careless and forgotten to set the alarm on my clock. When I couldn't sit around any more I decided to go back to the hiding place. I took my position in the woods and waited and watched. I saw the Delorean appear and disappear a couple of times before the team finally left for home.

I felt cheated that I had missed out on today's missions so I was tempted to hop on the Delorean and do some missions of my own when I noticed a crumpled piece of paper on the ground.

I picked up the crumpled ball and began to unwrap it. It dawned on me that TrueMacedonian must have been there early in the morning looking for me and when he didn't find me he decided to leave me a message.

As I opened the paper I could see it consisted of two pages; clippings from newspapers.

TrueMacedonian probably did not want me to miss out on today's missions so he did what I ordinarily would do; look in the next day's papers to see the results of the missions, so I thought! Unsure I began to read the first page, here is what it said;

“CHRISTIANS IN TURKEY

To the Editor of the New York Times:

The Writer read with much interest the letter in The Times of today relating to the Macedonian disturbances. It has been said that ‘the worst Christian Government is better than the best Muslim Government,’ but Mr. Berman, the writer of the letter in question, apparently thinks Turkish rule good enough in its way or feels international justice demands that Turkey in Europe be preserved at any

price. He speaks of ‘acts of retribution on the parts of their (the Macedonians’) Turkish masters.’ As the Turks have long referred to the Christians in their dominion as ‘dogs’ the term is perhaps a very apt one.

We rid Cuba of Spanish rule because it was felt the conditions there had become unbearable and because we considered that our peace and safety rendered it imperative that we do so. If Russia and Austria pursued a like course in the Balkans they would have at least as good cause for their actions as had we, though of course such a move on their part would stir up trouble among other interested powers.

The Macedonians, a hardy race of farmers and laborers, do not ask independence, but autonomy – the right to rule themselves, to have a voice in their own government. In this age of self-government surely they are but asking for their own.

In every vilayet in European Turkey outside of Constantinople, except in Albania, the Christian population outnumbers the Mohammedan, yet the Christians exist in a land of their fathers simply on sufferance. If one of them approaches a circle in which there are Christians and Mohammedans he must first address the latter, after which he may speak to his own people.

Let those who think Turkey should be kept alive at any price ponder the history of Bosnia and Herzegovina since they have passed under Austrian control. Let them consider the conditions of those states today and compare it with any period during which the Crescent floated over them. This is not an appeal for those people simply because they are Christians, but because they are men living under conditions that we believe are intolerable, without political rights or any political or economic future.

It is not desirable that this plum fall to either Austria or Russia, but evidently it will do so eventually unless all civilization rises up in arms for a people that has lived in Turkey for ages and yet are not Turks, a people honest, frugal, industrious, but a race of strangers without a country, in the valleys and on the hillsides that they have tilled for centuries.

E.C. BATAILLE.

Orange, N. J., August 11, 1903.” (The New York Times, August 11, 1903)

Ah, quite an interesting story. Bravo to Tito and the team! So let’s see what the other article has to say;

“MACEDONIA’S HEROIC STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM

System of Operation Adopted by the Revolutionary Bands.

Turkish soldiers fear them and avoid engagements – Women fighters as brave as the men.

The insurgent bands in Macedonia are in organization and method of operation developed from the system used in Bulgaria before Bulgaria became free. At that time the bands were formed in Roumania and used Roumania as their base. The traditions of the leaders of these old Bulgarian bands are celebrated in song and story, and many of the chiefs after Bulgaria became free occupied important posts in the administration of the new country.

The life of an insurgent is the greatest of hardship. He often goes days without food, seldom spends the night twice in the same place, and, of course, is in perpetual danger. Before joining a band the insurgent takes oath never to surrender. The conduct and the membership of the bands are practically in the hands of young men. There are, however, several known women among them. The most celebrated is Ekaterina Arnaudova. She is said to be one of the best shots in the Balkans, and there are many stories of her prowess. There are also many former schoolmasters among the insurgents. While I was in Bulgaria a former schoolmaster and his fiancé were both killed while fighting with one of the bands.

The Macedonians were nearly freed from the Turks at the end of the Russo-Turkish war in '78. Knowing this and seeing the great prosperity of their kinsmen in Bulgaria, they have never ceased their struggle to obtain the same position. The movement began to be particularly strong in the early part of nineties and received great impetus in 1895, owing to the interest that Prince Ferdinand then took in their affairs. At the time Bulgarian officers, Sarafoff, among the number, first seriously attempted to raise an insurrection. This, however, was easily stifled by the Turkish soldiers.

However, the revolutionary propaganda made great headway among the younger generations in Macedonia, who became greatly interested in the work for future freedom. Rifles were obtained and military exercises were started in the villages. But for some time a central organization was not worked out, or rather there were several conflicting small organizations. In a few years, however, one current became dominant, the one having for leaders Delcheff (since killed), Grooyeff now chief of the Monastir staff; Gyorcho Petroff, and Tattarcheff, the foreign representative. They took for their motto the words of Gladstone 'Macedonia for the Macedonians'. They differentiated themselves from the Bulgarians and the Macedonians

living in Bulgaria, who formed the old committee with headquarters in Sofia.

After some struggle the Bulgarian committee were obliged to take the secondary role of gathering money and representing the movement before Europe. At the same time the internal committee of the Macedonians had to contend with discordant elements, but finally came into entire control. It then began to perfect its organization and systematize the levying of taxes, finally monopolizing the cause of liberation of Macedonia.

Meanwhile, the committee at Sofia, very moderate in tone, gradually losing its influence, and at last was obliged to give way to a new and more radical policy. Sarafoff took the lead and the committee assented to his policy of terroristic activity by the internal organization. But this, of course, soon made the official existence of the Sofia committee impossible. Sarafoff's course was too severe, and he was obliged to give up the Presidency. The power fell into the hands of Gen. Tsoncheff, whose movements were supposed to be inspired by Prince Ferdinand. Sarafoff went to Macedonia, where he had since taken an active part as leader of one of the bands.

Gen. Tsoncheff began propaganda for an immediate revolution in Macedonia. That started a new and bitter strife not only between the internal committees and the Sofia committees, but among the insurgents themselves, and many of the most important influential leaders inside Macedonia fell into the hands of the Turks. Gen. Tsoncheff, however, decided to force the situation, and, although the results showed that the organization was not in shape to proceed on the best lines, it showed that the elements were too many and too powerful to be stopped after the movement had once got under way.

Then the internal organization after some hesitation decided to cooperate with Tsoncheff, and he on the other hand agreed to acknowledge the leadership of the internal committee. The whole region of insurrection had already been divided into circuits, and the members of the internal committee who survived divided among themselves the leadership of these circuits. To preserve unity of operation they held monthly meetings where the whole movement was discussed and the programme adopted by majority vote. Communication among the bands in action was also well established. Their headquarters in the mountains are practically inaccessible to Turkish troops and at the present time they are well equipped with arms and ammunition.

The Turkish army holds the insurrection at great awe, and never seriously seek and engagement with them. The whole force of the

Askar or regular Turkish soldiers, as well as the Bashi-Bazouks, or irregulars is thrown on the defenseless population of the villages. Something of the spirit which animates these people can be shown by the following incident, which occurred after I had left Bulgaria. In the same compartment with me was traveling a young man, possibly twenty-five or twenty-six years old. We engaged in conversation, and when he learned that I was interested in the Macedonian movement, he told his own story in the calmest kind of way. He said: 'I am a Macedonian engineer. My father, mother, two brothers and two sisters were killed by the Turkish soldiers, so that all there is for me left to do is to fight as long as I can stand up. I have seven wounds, which I have not had time to have attended to. One in my knee is very serious and bothers me a great deal. I am out of Macedonia to get cartridges and dynamite for the band but I am anxious to get back and begin fighting again as soon as I can. I may have a chance to have a surgeon examine the wounds on my knee, but I have no time to give to it, - as I want to return to the fighting as soon as possible.'

This is one story of countless that I heard when down there, but it is quite a typical one. The demands of the insurrectionists are, however, very moderate. They offer no programme, but say they will lay down their arms as soon as a method is found for protecting life and property in Macedonia. But it must be a real method, and no paper reform will answer. They are going to keep right on fighting until this is obtained beyond all question.

CHARLES R. CRANE,
Chicago, Dec. 3, 1903." (The New York Times, December 3, 1903)

This story too was very satisfying to read and confirmed historically everything I knew about that period.

Satisfied that my day was not a total loss, I returned home and the first thing I did was set the alarm clock to wake me up the next day.

Essay 16 – Fear of a Balkan War

Anxious to avoid sleeping in, I set my alarm clock the previous evening to wake me up an hour earlier than usual. I wanted to be by the Delorean bright and early just in case TrueMacedonian decided to pay me a visit. But just as I arrived at the “secret spot” I noticed the Delorean was gone. It was not there and neither was anyone else for that matter. I began to wonder what could have happened. Could the team have left earlier than usual? Could the team have discovered that I was a stowaway and decided to find a new hiding place for launching the missions? How was I going to get in touch with TrueMacedonian when I did not even know where he lived?

I decided to hide in the bushes and lay in wait anyway, hoping that somehow things would return to normal and I would again be able to board the Delorean in the usual fashion and the team and I would again be traveling with Tito to secret missions.

Just as I sat there, preoccupied with my thoughts, I caught a glimpse of the Delorean appear and then disappear. The team must have returned from one mission and was off to the next, I thought to myself as I was overcome with excitement that all was not lost. But why must the Delorean return to the same time and space from one mission in order to go to the next mission? Could this spot be “ground zero” in space and time for the time-machine and it has to return here to recalibrate its instruments before going to another mission? I could only guess as to the reason for its return but I was happy to see it back.

Bored of waiting for the Delorean to return I decided to go home and come back later when the missions were over. I wanted to get in touch with TrueMacedonian and find out what was going on? Why did the team leave much earlier this morning? Was this going to be the new, permanent schedule or was this just for the day? I had to know.

I had just returned to my hiding place when I saw the Delorean suddenly appear out of nowhere. It was indeed startling to see.

Ah the team has returned, I thought to myself. And as the Delorean’s engines were shut down, I knew this was the last mission and the team would soon be going home. As I peeked through the brush I could see everyone come out of the car and slowly drift away towards the horizon. TrueMacedonian was the last to exit the car and as he did he flicked something over his head with his right thumb. I watched it land and bounce just behind the Delorean. It must be a message for me, I thought. I hope it’s newspaper clippings from today’s missions. I waited until everyone had disappeared behind the horizon before I came out of the bush and quickly picked up what looked like a paper ball of discarded trash. How clever I thought.

I was right, it was a ball of crumpled-up paper with three tightly packed pages. I anxiously and carefully unwrapped them and began to study them. The first one read;

“FEAR OF A BALKAN WAR

All the Powers working to bring about reforms peaceably.

Chief Feature of Innovation is a Governor for Macedonia with Independent Powers – Bulgaria’s good faith doubted.

SOFIA, Bulgaria, Feb. 17. – The sobranje to-day, after a long and heated debate, adopted a resolution approving the action of the Government in suppressing the Macedonian committees.

In the course of the discussions the Premier, Dr. Daneff, made an impassionate appeal to the house to support the Government, saying that it was imperative to the welfare of Bulgaria at the present critical moment that the powers should remain without any doubt as to the Bulgarian Government’s intention to keep the people of Macedonia quiet and to help the powers in carrying out the scheme of pacification.

VIENNA, Feb. 17. – The Neue Freie Presse announces that the Austro-Russian note was today submitted to the cabinets of Berlin, Paris, London and Rome, and that it will be presented to the Porte on Feb. 19 unless the powers require a revision of it, in which case its presentation will be delayed until Feb. 21.

The reform proposals are chiefly of an administrative and financial nature, such as the Porte has heretofore promised but never executed. One new feature is the appointment of a Governor, not necessarily a Christian, who shall have authority to act without referring to the Porte in every contingency.

It is believed in diplomatic circles that the Porte will oppose the appointment of such a Governor, and it is seriously doubted whether the reforms will satisfy the Macedonians. The good faith of the Bulgarian Government in ordering the recent arrests of Macedonians is also questioned, in view of the fact that the most prominent revolutionists managed to escape.

A formidable outbreak in the early Spring is considered as by no means impossible. According to advices from Salonica, the German, British and Italian military attaches arrived in the city today from Constantinople.” (The New York Times, February 17, 1903)

The second one read;

“PLANS OF MACEDONIANS.

Correspondent comes into touch with the insurgent leader.

London Times – New York Times – Special Cablegram.

LONDON, Oct. 21. – After a long journey in the night a special correspondent of the Times in Macedonia has succeeded in getting into touch with the leader of the Macedonian Revolutionists.

He was informed that it was the intention of the insurgents to carry on their guerrilla operations throughout the Winter so far as the climatic conditions will permit, in order to compel Turkey to keep a large army of pacification constantly under arms. The bands intend to make another desperate campaign in the Spring.

The sole hope of the revolutionary leaders is to prolong the present disturbed state of affairs in order to prove to Europe that Turkey, in spite the enormous forces employed to suppress the insurrection, is unable to settle the Macedonian question. They feel confident that the powers will then force the Porte to grant the autonomy demanded by them.

With regard to the atrocities perpetrated in Macedonia, the correspondent says, the insurgent leaders, who have no cause to love the Turks, do not endorse entirely the stories of vengeance perpetrated on innocent women and children that have been circulated by some hysterical correspondents. They say that the Turks massacre all male Macedonians suspected of sympathy with the insurrection and constantly fire on parties of refugees, but wholesale outrages on women and children have occurred only on occasions. The wholesale pillage and destruction of villages and massacres of the males have been the method pursued by the Turks in dealing with the insurrection. The insurgent leaders have adopted a new policy in order to take from the Turks as far as possible any pretext for retribution of this sort. They have established food supplies in the mountains.” (The New York Times, October 21, 1903)

The third one read;

“WILL AID MACEDONIANS

Bulgarian Plan to Collect Funds for the Insurgents.

Government may be asked to intervene – Premier Petroff tells of his inspection of the frontier.

SOFIA, Bulgaria, Aug. 15. – An enthusiastic meeting of Macedonian sympathizers was held here this afternoon, at which resolutions were adopted in favor of agitating throughout the country in order to bring pressure to bear upon the Bulgarian Government to intervene in Macedonia. A committee was appointed to collect money to aid the insurgents.

Premier Petroff has just returned from a visit to the Macedonian frontier where it touches the District of Dubnitza, and takes somewhat of an optimistic view of the situation in Macedonia. He believes the outbreak will be confined in the vilayet of Monastir, where the Turks probably will succeed in suppressing the insurrection. When interviewed today by a representative of the Associated Press he discussed the condition of affairs frankly and at length.

Regarding the reports that Bulgaria was responsible for the outbreak, he pointed out that the center of the disturbed area at present was nearly two-hundred miles from the Bulgarian frontier and was separated from it by a country largely inhabited by Turks. Consequently, he said, it was foolish to say that the movement was aided by bands from Bulgaria, and that it was equally unreasonable to suggest that the arms of the insurgents came from Bulgaria. As a matter of fact, he said, the guns used by the insurgents were all of French manufacture, and most of them had been bought from Turkish officers and men who, receive no pay, had resorted to sale of their guns and ammunition to obtain money.

The insurrection, he said, was entirely a national Macedonian movement organized by the Macedonian Internal Committee, which in itself was proof of the shocking condition of affairs due to the excesses of Turkish soldiers, who, on the pretext of searching for arms, entered Macedonian villages to plunder and destroy.

The situation in the unhappy villages, he said, was rendered more desperate by the refusal of the Turks to permit the unemployed to leave in order to secure work elsewhere. This goaded the population to the most desperate measures. Premier Petroff declared that the Bulgarian Government was doing its most to maintain peace.

‘Not only is the frontier guarded to prevent crossing of individual bands’ he said ‘but a rigid inspection also exists at interior points, and it is absolutely certain that no bands, large or small, are passing the frontier at this time. A few individuals may, of course, be crossing. Little excitement or enthusiasm is evident in Bulgaria now, but should the unexpected happen, and a massacre of Bulgarians occur, or should the movement assume alarming proportions, the population of Bulgaria would naturally become greatly excited, and while the Government is most anxious to maintain peace, it would, of course, be forced to

consider Bulgarian population sentiment. Thus a most critical situation might arise. It appears now, however, as if the movement would be confined, notwithstanding the reports of its extension.’

M. Petroff says that the Turks are pouring overwhelming forces into Monastir, and that they are sufficient not only to suppress the present rising but to destroy the entire revolutionary movement, unless the Powers intervene to prevent Turkey from taking rigorous measures. Upon the whole, the Premier believes there is no immediate cause for alarm. On the contrary, he is of opinion that the situation will soon change for the better.” (The New York Times, August 15, 1903)

Satisfied that my day was not a total loss, I quickly returned home and set my alarm clock to wake me up even earlier than this morning. I was determined to be there tomorrow before Tito and the team.

Essay 17 – Macedonian Leaders Murdered

It was still dark when I got up this morning but none the less I was determined to be at the secret site as early as possible just in case the team had decided to go on another early mission. To my dismay, when I arrived the Delorean was gone; it had again disappeared. I couldn't understand what had happened but this time I was determined to find out. I parked myself out of sight in the bushes in the darkness and waited for dawn to break. It was peaceful and quiet in the forest with the occasional bird call and the sounds of insects.

It seemed like hours had passed as the first rays of the sun cut through the trees, illuminating and warming the dense bush in the forest.

Ah, there it was! I caught a glimpse of the Delorean as it crossed time barriers only to appear and disappear from my world. I was certain the schedule was changed and the team was now leaving much earlier than usual. But why? And how could I find out when?

As I sat there hidden in the brush contemplating my dilemma I witnessed the Delorean appear and disappear several times. This is unusual, I thought, the team usually goes on two to three missions and occasionally on a fourth mission in a single day. But today I witnessed the Delorean appear and disappear three times already and it's not even noon! What's going on?

Just as I was thinking of leaving and going home, I heard the Delorean's engines power down. I quietly and quickly peeked through the brush only to see the team leaving. I could see that Tito was not well as Marty and Doc carried his arms over their shoulders. As usual TrueMacedonian was last to leave and, not to disappoint me, tossed something behind him.

I kept my eye on the rolling object making sure to note its point of rest. I then looked at the team leaving and saw TrueMacedonian waving goodbye. That rascal knows I am here and is toying with me!

Just as the team disappeared on the horizon I bolted out and quickly picked up the rolled-up ball TrueMacedonian had tossed and began to unravel it. It contained four pieces of paper. They were newspaper clippings of today's missions. The first one read:

“600 MACEDONIANS COMING

Emigrating to America – Atrocities Still Going on in Turkey.

BELGRADE, March 18. – Six hundred Macedonian emigrants left here to-day for the United States by way of Feume.

All of them possessed sufficient funds to permit their entering into the United States.

Although the Turkish Government reports the conditions of the Macedonian valleys to be 'tranquil', it appears that, after all the efforts of the powers and the elaborate measures taken by the foreign gendarmerie officers, the condition of the Christian population is very little better than it was two years ago.

On Feb. 28 Bulgaria addressed a 'note verbale' to the Ottoman Commissariat, calling attention on the suffering inflicted on the Bulgarians in Salonika and Monastir Provinces by Greek bands and by Turkish officials and troops.

The note gave details regarding a series of atrocities perpetrated by Greek bands in recent times, including numerous cases of assassinations, arson, and pillage. Among the instances cited was an attack on the village of Bernek, where nine men and one woman were killed, others wounded and five houses burned: the burning of the village of Poutouros, where two men and one woman were murdered and two children committed to the flames; the burning of the village of Tzernitchani, and the series of exploits by the famous Capitan Panayoti, including the plundering of the village of Iveeni, from which twelve of the principle inhabitants were carried away and subsequently put to death." (New York Times, March 19, 1906)

Missing a title, the second article read;

VIENNA, July 18. – The Porte has already made choice of three prelates for the vacant Macedonian bishoprics. They are Monsignor Theodosius for Uskab, Monsignor Sinessus for Ochrida and Monsignor Jusma for Kossovo. All three are Macedonians who have never lived in Bulgaria nor concerned themselves with politics.

The principle semi-official journals of the Greek Government, that is the Palingenesis, the Nea Ephemeris, and the Acropolis, are warmly protesting against the appointment of Bulgarian bishops in Macedonia. They say these bishops cannot be tolerated by the side of the Greek bishops, as Macedonia is the very core of Hellenism, and the whole future of Greece depends on its being able some day to annex that province. It is said in diplomatic circles that these complaints are producing in Constantinople quite a contrary effect to that which the writers desire.

The Austrian and German Ambassadors at Constantinople have communicated an identical note to the Porte, in which they complain of the capture by brigands of the two Austrian engineers, Messrs. Mejer and Gersen and request that stringent measures may be taken to protect

foreigners employed on public works in Turkey from similar misadventures. Herr Mejer was released 24 hours after his capture in order that he might fetch 1,000 pounds of the ransom demanded and make arrangements for the payment of the rest. The money was given to him by the local agents of the railway contractors, but on arriving at the place where he was to meet the brigands he found that the whole band had been scared away by the Turkish soldiers having begun a premature pursuit. The consequence of this blunder is that the brigands have now carried away Herr Gerson into the mountains.” (The New York Times, July 19, 1890)

The third article read;

“MACEDONIAN LEADERS MURDERED

ALEXANDROFF DEAD.

(From our correspondent).

SOFIA, September 15. – Todor Alexanderoff, the Macedonian leader, was assassinated on August 31 by Macedonian opponents who had lately come under Bolshevik influence.

News has been received at the Bulgarian Legation that Aleko Pash and Colonel Athanasoff, two prominent members of the Macedonian Revolutionary Organization, have been murdered at Gorna Jumaya, in South-Western Bulgaria. At the same time two leaders of the Macedonian Federalists have been killed in Sofia.

Todor Alexandroff who was born in 1882, was one of the most picturesque leaders in the Balkans. He began life as a school master but soon forsook this profession for the more war like one of komitaji (political brigand). He took part in the continuous struggle which the Macedonians waged against the Turks, but in 1913 his health gave away and he went to France. During the European War he belonged to the Macedonian Division which operated against the allies on the Struma front and worked for the Germans as a spy. After the war he sank into comparative obscurity, but when the Treaty of Neuilly was signed, in November, 1919, dividing the greater part of Macedonia between Yugoslavia and Greece, Alexandroff resumed his crusade for an autonomous Macedonia. Together with General Protogeroff and Peter Chauleff, Alexandroff directed the policy of the Revolutionary Organization, and roamed the countryside to keep the revolutionary spirit alive.

Possessed of a most magnetic presence, Alexandroff, as the writer knew him, was the type of fanatical patriot who would stop at nothing to achieve his goal – the creation of an autonomous Macedonia. He had undoubtedly been responsible for many assassinations and it is therefore not to be wondered at that he himself came to a violent end. It is too early to say what the effect of his death would be, but General Protogeroff is likely to take his place as revolutionary leader.

An account of an interview between Todor Alexandroff and a correspondent, which took place a month ago in the mountains of Macedonia, will be found on p. 9.” (The New York Times, September 16, 1924)

The fourth article read;

“MACEDONIAN AIMS

MURDERED LEADER’S DECLARATION.

(From a Correspondent.)

In August I had a nocturnal interview with Alexandroff in the mountains of Macedonia in a spot some distance from the Bulgarian frontier, where we were surrounded by Komitajis armed to the teeth. I was anxious to find out to what extent the Macedonian Revolutionary was in alliance with the Bolshevists, who had announced in their organ, La Federation Balkanique, which is published in Vienna, that the Macedonian chiefs had signed a manifesto strongly supporting the policy of the Soviet for the overthrow of all existing Balkan Governments. It was reported that two at least of the Macedonian Triumvirate, Alexanderoff and Protogeroff had denounced this manifesto referred to in the Times of August 5 and 6, as a forgery, and the only means of obtaining definite information on this point was to get it from Alexandroff himself.

In reply to my question, the Macedonian leader said: -
I declare that I did not sign either the manifesto published in La Federation Balkanique and attributed by that review to the Central Committee of the Macedonian Organization, nor have I signed any other similar documents. If my signature is at the bottom, of this manifesto, it is false; Protogeroff also affirms that he has not signed this manifesto. We have no desire to struggle against European capitalism, which does not concern us. The Organization has only one aim: the liberation of Macedonia. And as long as I am alive, and as long as I am at the head of the Organization, I shall not allow the Organization to

fall away from this its fundamental and only aim and to become an instrument for aims which are strange to it. The Organization has nothing in common with Communism and Bolshevism.

I do not deny the fact that the Bolsheviks have tried several times to win over the Organization and in every occasion it is they who have taken the initiative in negotiating. It was after an order received from Moscow that the Bulgarian Communist Press ceased to attack us in 1922, although we did not ask anyone to spare us the attacks of the Communist papers.

In 1923 the Soviet agents again proposed to me to begin negotiations. I then put the following conditions as an essential preliminary to the negotiations; The dissolution of Pandurski's Communist band, the suppression of the Macedonian Communist paper *Osvobojdenje*, and the dissolution of the Communist organization of the Macedonian émigrés. My ultimatum was accepted and fully executed in August, 1923, but in September of the same year there was the rising of the Agrarians and Communists in Bulgaria and I had declared to the Communists that I consider all risings and coup d'état complicated the already difficult position in Bulgaria, and were injurious and inadmissible. In the name of the Organization I informed the Communists that the independence of Bulgaria was extremely dear to me and as a Communist coup d'état would threaten this independence, the Organization would be obliged to consider every attempt to overthrow the existing Government and to substitute for it a Government of Communists and Agrarians as a blow to the independence of Bulgaria, and that consequently it will begin a direct and pitiless struggle with the authors of such attempts, and will deal with them as it deals with all its enemies. It will be understood that after such a declaration negotiations could not be continued.

'LEFT' ELEMENTS.

But I do not deny that in our Organization there are 'Left' elements who invariably say that during five years we have not been able to obtain anything from the League of Nations, Paris, or London, and that consequently we must try and come into an agreement with Moscow. Under the influence of the 'Left', but, again, on the initiatives of the Soviet representatives in Vienna, negotiations were began in 1924. The representative of the Soviet of Moscow put as a condition for an agreement with us the consent of the Organization to the 'Sovietizing' of Bulgaria and Macedonia. We replied that this condition was unacceptable to us and negotiations ceased. Since then they have not again been resumed.

In London I did not see Rakovski, and I did not sign any agreement with him. Information concerning this agreement probably comes from the same origin as the manifesto.

I repeat that, as long as I remain at the head of the Organization, the latter will fight by all means against Bolshevism, which, in my opinion, is greatly injurious to the national Macedonian movement. And again, a few days ago, I informed the Bulgarian Communists, in the name of the Organization, that the Organization will not permit a Communist coup d'état in Bulgaria.

But I must say that the situation in Macedonia becomes intolerable. From the memorandum which the Organization will present to the League of Nations in September, Europe will be able to convince itself that the Serbian and Greek regimes are worse than the Turkish. For the Serbian and Greek regimes by their cruelty, illegality, and violence surpass anything that can be imagined. As long as these continue and as long as Macedonia is governed by barbarous methods, the Organization will not desist from its armed struggle; on the contrary, its struggle will be increased. But we shall willingly put aside our arms and begin a political and cultural existence as soon as the necessary conditions for free political and cultural development are guaranteed to the Macedonian population.

CONDITIONS DEMANDED.

Our requests are very modest. We do not want the dissolution of Yugoslavia; we desire that Yugoslavia becomes a Federal, free and strong State. And in the name of the Organization I formally declare that the Organization will cease its armed struggle if the following conditions are fulfilled: -

1. The dissolution of subsidized Serbian official bands of Stoyan Micheff, Zikleff and other traitors throughout Macedonia and the prosecution of the members of these bands for the crimes which they have committed (rape, assassinations and brigandage).
2. The application of the clauses included in the Peace Treaty for the defense of the rights of National Minorities under the control of the League of Nations and under the guarantee of the Great Powers.
3. An amnesty of all arrested Macedonians and the permission to return to Macedonia the refugees and émigrés also under the control of the League of Nations and the guarantee of the Great Powers.
4. The liberty of elections in the Skupshtina and the granting of the Macedonians to the right to form legal political parties.

These are our fundamental requests, and if our demands are executed in a strict, loyal, and honest manner, we engage ourselves to put aside our arms and to cease our armed struggle.

We also insist in the same way as other people included in Yugoslavia in the reconstruction of Yugoslavia into a federal state in which Macedonia would enter as a member of the Federation on equal rights with other members of the Yugoslav Federation. Taking into consideration the inevitable decomposition in the near future of Greece we ask the incorporation of the Autonomous Macedonia of the Macedonian territory which is now under the Greek dominion. When all the above conditions are sincerely and honestly executed the part of Macedonia which is in the hands of Bulgaria must also be incorporated into the Autonomous Macedonia. I am convinced that it is only in this way and acting as I have indicated that it will be possible to avoid Bolshevism in the Balkan Peninsula, that peace will be insured in the Balkans, and that a strong and durable Yugoslavia will be created. The duty of the Western European Democracies, in which we still have faith, is to save Macedonia from death and the Macedonian population from destruction, or, which is the same thing, from Bolshevism.” (The New York Times, September 16, 1924)

I never liked Todor Aleksandrov (Alexandroff), I felt he was too close and too chummy for my comfort with the Bulgarians but I do like what he was proposing; an Autonomous Macedonia; a Macedonia for the Macedonians. I like that!

Just as I finished reading the last article, I could see some handwriting, lightly written in pencil, at the bottom of the piece of paper. It said, “Meet me here at midnight tonight.”

Conclusion

As soon as I had read the newspaper articles left for me by TrueMacedonian I left for home. I couldn't help but wonder what had happened to Tito. Was he sick? He didn't look like he'd had too much rakia. Besides it was too early in the morning for rakia, he usually drinks in the evenings.

Why would TrueMacedonian want to see me at midnight? Could it be because of this new departure time?

All was about to be revealed when I showed up at the "secret spot" at midnight and finally had a talk with TrueMacedonian. Surely he will tell me everything! After all, that is why he wants to see me, I thought to myself.

I noticed the time was 11:50 PM as I took the turn for the "secret spot" on my way to meet with TrueMacedonian. It was dark and impossible to see where I was going when I suddenly noticed a beam of light illuminating my path. The person lighting my way must have realized they startled me because the next thing I saw was a face lit up. The beam of light was now illuminating the person's face. It was TrueMacedonian. In spite of my startled state, I recognized him. "What are you doing all the way out here?" I asked.

"I figured you might forget to bring a flashlight," he said "so I came out here to meet you."

"I have so many questions," I said "I don't know where to begin."

"For starters hello to you too," he said as he stood silent with a disappointed look on his face!

"What is it?" I asked.

"Well, let me get to the point," he said. "Tito has fallen sick and has cancelled all future missions. Today at 6:00 AM we are, I mean the team without you, is boarding the time machine for the last time. Each one of us will be taken back to our actual time and place of origin and will be left there permanently. So this is actually goodbye. I will not be able to see you again. I will however answer all your questions before I go," explained TrueMacedonian.

The shocking news of not being able to go on missions and not being able to have my talks with TrueMacedonian dulled my senses and made all my questions pointless.

"I knew this would happen. That is why I had Soldier of Macedon from the Macedonian Truth forum compile this list just for you," said TrueMacedonian as he handed me a piece of paper.

"Before you read it just listen to me, my time here is short and I want to emphasize some important things," said TrueMacedonian as I gave him my full attention.

“The idea of publishing century old articles was good; it gave the readers ample information with which they could combat Greek propaganda, Greek fabrications and false Greek claims that the Macedonian identity was created by Tito. But there is something more important that needs to be done and that is to expose the Greek lies about themselves. Modern Greeks on one hand claim to be ethnically pure ‘Greeks’ who have descended from the ancient Greeks and on the other they claim ‘Macedonians don’t exist’! How can that be since Macedonia and Greece not only have been without borders for over two millennia, but both have been exposed to the same invasions and ravishes of time. Whatever happened in Macedonia happened in Greece. Historically this, without a doubt, can be proven. Sorry but Greece can’t have it both ways and I can’t emphasize this more strongly. The world needs to know the truth, particularly the Macedonian and Greek people. Both Macedonians and Greeks need to know that the Modern Greeks are just as diverse a collection of ethnicities as are the Macedonians. The truth is that all peoples in the Balkans are so mixed that only their politics makes them unique. And by that I mean by living without borders, by mixing with one another and by being exposed to the same invasions, we have become indistinguishable from one another except for our politics of course. This we all need to understand!

We also need to understand that it was the Western Europeans who came along and told us who we can or can’t be. Let’s not forget that and let’s not let others and their plans be the object of our division. Heck let’s tell it the way it is! We are Macedonians, we feel Macedonian and that is what we always have been and will be. We deserve to be treated the same as our neighbours because we are no different than them. We should not be asked to make ‘compromises’, especially to our detriment, in order to make our enemies happy. Unfortunately it goes deeper than just happiness. I think the question of who we are has nothing to do with ‘really who we are’ but has a lot to do with who benefits if we are not Macedonians. Our loss is someone else’s gain, more precisely it has to do with what the Greeks will gain because of our loss; something they have stolen from us and now don’t want to give back. Personal interests are always at the root of every ‘conflict’ be it between individual people or between countries. Western Europeans created Modern Greece basically out of fiction to satisfy their own interests and as a result they sacrificed us and our Macedonian identity. Why they did this is another story but it does not change the fact that they allowed Greece to invade, occupy and annex Macedonian territories, displace people, commit genocide, confiscate properties and assets and all that without any compensation. Perhaps

that was fashionable in the old days but none the less it was illegal. Things, unfortunately (for them), have changed now and the winds favour us, the Macedonians, and we want back what was once taken from us. Besides compensation for what was illegally stolen from us we also want recognition for the injustices perpetrated against us. We are asking them to admit their guilt for their wrong doings, which for them is very difficult to do. So they maintain that ‘Macedonians don’t exist’; out of sight out of mind. How can they be guilty of committing crimes against a people that don’t exist? Thus abusers continue to excuse themselves of their responsibility and of the criminal acts they committed against the Macedonian people. Besides that, Greeks want it all for themselves. They already have the so-called ancient Greek heritage but they also want the ancient Macedonian heritage all to themselves. Outside of that, they have 51% of the historic Macedonian territories and those too they want to own exclusively at the expense of the Macedonians. Is that fair? I would say not! Above all are they really the true heirs even of the Greek heritage? We need to question that since history tells us different. And since they have put us in this precarious position it is only fair that we also put them in a precarious position and expose them for the frauds they truly are! Don’t you agree?” demanded TrueMacedonian.

“Yes I do!” I replied.

“Then you know what to do,” continued TrueMacedonian “and you will do it until every Macedonian and every Greek is fully aware of the reality of our mutual situation and of our predicament. I wish you good luck and perhaps we shall meet again someday in the future. I must go now to prepare for my return to my own time. Goodbye.”

I too said my goodbyes, and as TrueMacedonian left I was overcome with a feeling of loss. As I watched TrueMacedonian’s silhouette vanish behind the horizon I realized I had a piece of paper in my hand. Unfortunately it was too dark to read it there so I left and when I came across the first street lamp I began to read. Here is what it said;

“A collection of excerpts gathered from the Macedonian Truth forum, largely brought to our attention by Daskalot and myself, TrueMacedonian, who have buried many a myth of the Modern Greek on countless occasions.

Compilation put together by Soldier of Macedon

Origins of the inhabitants of Modern Greece:

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...read.php?t=841>

Albanian origins of the liberators and leaders of Modern Greece:

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...ead.php?t=1111>

But the revival was only for a time, and, in spite of Greek struggles, at the end of the tenth century Slavonians formed almost the entire population of Macedonia, Epirus, continental Greece and the Peloponnesus. It was during these centuries, that what remained, if indeed anything remained, of even degenerate Hellenic blood absorbed or was absorbed into that of the Slav. Indeed, the Albanians appear to have done for Greece in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries something like that which the Slavonians had done in the sixth and seventh. ... They number about 200,000 souls; and within a greater part of the districts occupied by Albanians at the present day the Greeks have been as completely expelled as the Celtic race in England by the Saxon. Unlike the Greek, for him the bonds of nationality are stronger than those of religion. to assert that a Greek Christian is a Hellene is as reasonable as to call all Roman Catholics Italians; and to claim a Slav or Albanian as a Hellene because he speaks Greek, is much the same as calling an educated Russian French, or an Irishman English, because they prefer French or English to their own less developed languages. (A Monthly Review – Greece, Spoilt Child of Europe)

The chief authority was conceded to the Albanian ship owners; George Konduriottes of Hydra was elected president of Greece, and Botasses of Spetzas vice-president. The Greeks are the most prejudiced of all Europeans when there is a question of the purity of the Hellenic race, and no people regards education with more favour; yet with all this nationality and pedantry they entrusted their public affairs, in a period of great difficulty, to two men who could not address them in the Greek language. (George Finlay, History of the Greek Revolution)

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...read.php?t=672>

The castle of Karytena, even in its ruins, has a proud feudal aspect, and was again, early in our century, the stronghold of one of the most famous and notorious of the revolutionary chiefs – Colocotroni. He ranks as a hero in that war. He is described as of the Albanian type. (J. P. Mahhahy, Greek Pictures)

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...ead.php?t=1223>

..... the liberators of Greece. Nine or ten of them performed the Albanian national dance, to the sound of a bad fiddle and a little jingling guitar played with a quill, for the amusement of her Majesty, who did not seem enchanted with this exhibition. ... these men, who were exposing themselves in this absurd manner, were the far-famed Colocotroni, Nikitas, surnamed the Turkophagos, or Turk-eater, Makryani, Vasso of Montenegro, Kota Botzaris, and others equally celebrated. this was merely the dance of the Albanians, a totally distinct race of men from the Greeks. (Blackwood's Magazine, XLIII)

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...read.php?t=786>

Athens, twenty-five years ago, was only an Albanian village. The Albanians formed, and still form, almost the whole of the population of Attica; and within three leagues of the capital, villages are to be found where Greek is hardly understood. Athens has been rapidly peopled with men of all kinds and nations.....Albanians form about one-fourth of the population of the country; they are in majority in Attica, in Arcadia, and in Hydra.....(Edmond About, Greece and the Greeks of the Present Day)

Reflections on the East Roman Empire:

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...read.php?t=767>

Until 1821, Greeks knew that there had once been a Christian empire with its capital at Constantinople, but they did not think of it as a Greek empire, and they certainly didn't call it the Byzantine Empire. (Katerina Zacharia, Hellenisms)

Philhellenism; its aim and impact:

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...ead.php?t=1502>

Most Greeks did not share Byron's views and would not have understood his allusions. They did not think of themselves as Greeks at all – and certainly not as Hellenes...but as Christians or Orthodox. (N. Hammond, Greece – Old and New)

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...ead.php?t=1501>

...Philhellenism was a sort of social disease, caused by hallucinations and the by the illusion of finding in the present mongrel inhabitants of Morea and Attica the descendants of the ancient Hellenes. Subsequent contact of Greece with Europe has already considerably modified these ideas, as the modern Greek begins to pass for what he is: a semi-barbarian, a not yet cultivated citizen, and already a spoilt savage.....Our classical recollections will have been proved a fallacy...only because they inhabit a soil where the Parthenon was built. (Baron Augustus Jochmus, The Syrian War and the Decline of the Ottoman Empire)

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...read.php?t=819>

It is certainly unlikely that before the infiltration of European Philhellenism the inhabitants of Kastri knew (or cared much, for that matter) that they were indeed the inhabitants of Delphi. (Stathis Gourgouris, Dream Nation)

The foundations of Neo-Hellenic Culture:

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...read.php?t=768>

It is significant that many of the nineteenth-century alterations to the Acropolis were carried out at the instigation of Germans, whose contribution to the modern Greeks' sense of their classical heritage was crucial..... an attempt was made to Hellenize the Greek

collective consciousness, and through katharevousa, to “purify” the modern Greek language. (Katerina Zacharia, Hellenisms)

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...read.php?t=766>

University of Athens - This, was the first institution of higher learning in the independent kingdom of the Hellenes, was founded by King Otto on the German model. (John Koliopoulos, Greece – The Modern Sequel)

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...read.php?t=747>

The new fate did not attach itself to the immediate past, as it had been preserved in the popular memory, but rather adapted itself to the convenient image of the ancient Greek past already created in the West. Otto’s father, King Ludwig I of Bavaria, was obsessed with ancient Greece and brought up his children with the aspiration that one day one of them would reign over this glorious land. (Discourses of Collective Identity in Central and Southeast Europe, Texts and Commentaries)

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...read.php?t=868>

In 1834 it was decided to create Athens the capital of the independent Kingdom of Greece. A German architect, Schaubert, was employed to plan the wide streets, the squares, the boulevards: and so Athens, which in 1834 was a village of five thousand inhabitants, has become in 1936 a city of over four hundred and fifty thousand people. (H. V. Morton, In the steps of St. Paul)

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum...read.php?t=792>

Ancient Sparta has entirely perished....New Sparta is a creation of King Otho, who has formed the useless project of resuscitating all the great names of Greece. It is a governmental and commercial town, composed entirely of shops, barracks, and public offices. (Edmond About, Greece and the Greeks of the Present Day)

Need I say more.

<http://www.macedoniantruth.org/forum/showthread.php?t=1627> ”

As I finished reading the compilation I couldn’t help but feel that I was headed for a long and treacherous journey, but a necessary one!