

Remember Byron? . . . He must be turning in his grave!

Byron died

in the cause of Greek freedom, in the War of Independence which began 150 years ago today, on March 25th, 1821;

Greek Democracy died

on April 21st, 1967, when a military Junta seized power in Greece, using NATO arms and a NATO plan.



After the Portrait by Thomas Phillips, R.A.

The military dictatorship has abolished all democratic rights and freedoms, including trade union freedoms, freedom of the press, and has subjected the Greek people to a regime of fascist terror, filling the mediaeval prisons and concentration camps with Greek democrats, who are sometimes 'tried' under martial law, sometimes held without charge or trial, or exiled to remote villages and islands. Mothers, the aged, the sick, the infirm, army officers, academics, former members of parliament – no one is immune.

The perpetrators of this Greek tragedy are the men who are today 'celebrating' the 150th Anniversary of the Greek War of Independence, posing as the heirs to the national tradition, and seeking to usurp the legacy of Byron, who consistently fought on the side of the Greek people until his death at Missolonghi. A desperate attempt to win friends and influence people, and so gain an international seal of respectability.

Do you call this Liberalisation??

In preparation for their New Year celebrations of the Greek War of Independence . . .

the colonels made more than 170 new arrests in November and December, holding the victims in complete isolation, in violation of Article 10 of the colonels' own 'Constitution'; and since the Junta denounced its agreement with the International Red Cross on November 4th, not even that body has been able to ascertain who is held and in what conditions.

No British participation in Junta celebrations!

When questions were asked in the House of Lords, on November 3rd, 1970, regarding the Junta's attempt to secure official British participation in their celebrations (while hundreds of men and women who oppose the military dictatorship are still held in inhuman conditions), Lord Balogh asked whether the government did not consider "... that Lord Byron would turn in his grave if he had an exhibition in his honour in present-day Athens?"

So don't let Colonels kidnap Byron!

COME TO HEAR PEGGY ASHCROFT, ADRIAN MITCHELL

in readings from Byron and modern Greek poets, in memory of Byron and the British and Greek peoples, whose struggle for freedom began 150 years ago, *and continues today*, at The Byron Statue, Hyde Park (assemble Hyde Park Corner tube, opposite St. George's Hospital, 12.20 p.m.) on Thursday, March 25th 1971, at 12.30 p.m.

To be followed by a march to the Greek Embassy,
51 Upper Brook Street

THIS LEAFLET IS ISSUED BY
THE LEAGUE FOR DEMOCRACY IN GREECE
26 Goodge Street, London, W.1
Telephone 01-580 1239 (after 2 p.m.)

The League for Democracy in Greece
which, since its foundation in 1945, has consistently campaigned for:

the release of all political prisoners
an end to torture
the lifting of Martial Law
freedom of the press
The restoration of democracy

and to whom enquiries regarding membership, speakers, donations, etc. should be made.

To: The League for Democracy in Greece
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- * Please send me information about membership or affiliation.
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- * I enclose £ : p as a donation.

**Please cross out what does not apply.*