

Jan, 1978

Report on Greece; GH discussion with a comrade recently returned from Greece (speaks fluent Greek)

Majority of section (OCDE) leadership [redacted] orients to old IMT positions on confrontationism.

This was illustrated by OCDE response to Baader-Meinhof affair recently. Three [redacted] or four comrades on the cc wanted to introduce a resolution [redacted] that clearly took distance politically from Baader-Meinhof (along lines of Rouge article). This was tabled by the majority, and another resolution was eventually adopted, merely talking about terrorism as a tactical question.

The OCDE participated with a few small [redacted] ultra-left, anarchist groups in small demonstration around this affair. In one city the police attacked the demonstration.

In a related incident, a Greek [redacted] anarchist, Kasimes, was killed by police alleging that they [redacted] came across him trying to bomb a German-owned factory in Greece in response to Baader-Meinhof. The section published an article favorable to Kasimes, saying that they knew him, and had been holding political discussions with him.

There are now many incidents of selective police victimization of leftists -- striking [redacted] out at those they label as "anarchists" and "terrorists"

Felekis, a leader of the section, was arrested as an "anarchist". He is charged with instigating riots around the Baader-Meinhof demonstrations, writing a laudatory article about Che Guevara, connections with the Greek publication of the 10th world congress documents on Latin America, and presence at the burial of Kasimes. His recent condemnation for 7 months was on an old case -- in connection with articles that had appeared in Ergatiki Pali prior to the fusion. He is serving this time now, and still awaits trial on the new charges.

There is supposed to [redacted] be an arrest warrant outstanding for Petros, one of the current central leaders of the OCDE. He came from the KEM side of the fusion, and had been editor of its paper, Barricade.

Livio spoke at a public meeting recently. Took a correct line on the terrorism question (although his statement saying FI "condemns" such actions was translated as "disagrees with")

He had a hard time persuading some ^{of} the Greek pro-IMTers of the dissolution.

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The section didn't really intervene much around the recent elections. Came out for the candidates of the CP (exterior), but didn't do much about this publicly. There was some opportunity around this, however.

The central leadership now is the former KEM leadership [redacted], including Petros, Nicos, Heleni (not the former LTF Helen)

Helen and Dimitros, former LTFers, are somewhat isolated; But Vasso, a former IMT leader, is working with Helen in writing a document on the basis of the current USFI positions against terrorism.

The internal situation is still somewhat tense. The Sofronios group still exists (has 20-30). The section has around 120, and has lost somewhat since the fusion.

The BTEs who split are still outside, but are going nowhere.

The fusion congress had originally been for fusion with the Tubinous group (linked to Thornett), but has not replied to the letter on this that came from Tubinous. It seems that the majority does not really favor pursuing fusion with Tubinous. Tubinous has lost members; may now have only 30 or 40 compared with 100 earlier. Tubinous is still formally for fusion

A big question in Greek politics is the attitude to take to the PASOK party (party of Papandreou)

Nicos leans to considering it a social democratic party
Vasso thinks it is a bourgeois party
Tubinous thinks it is a progressive petty bourgeois party,
and a friendly attitude should be adopted towards it.

Gerry Foley will write a letter to Barry and Caroline raising some concerns around the terrorism question and the Felekis defense. He will base this on articles that appeared in the OCDE press, and the letter can be shown around.