

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE "NO" DAY CELEBRATED IN GREECE

As mentioned in the title Greece and Greeks today on the 28th of October celebrate the "NO" (OXI) that the fascist dictator of Greece Ioannis Metaxas said to Emanuele Grazzi the ambassador that delivered Mussolini's ultimatum. But did he really say it? The supposed "NO" is one of the biggest lies of Greek History.



The soldier of Metaxas saluting him like nazis

28 of October 1940 at 3 in the morning. Grazzi arrives at Metaxas home to deliver the ultimatum. In their meeting there was no third party just the 2 men and both of them have left written testimonies about the meeting and none of them mentions any "NO". Grazzi in his book "The beginning of the end-operation against Greece" writes that when he delivered the ultimatum Metaxas almost burst to tears and was shaking and that he just ascertained that the countries are at war "Alors c' est la

Guerre!". And in the book of Ioannis Metaxas "Personal Journal, Volume 4" is not mentioned any "NO". Not only that but Metaxas tried to bargain with the Italians asking Grazzi to give him at least the strategic positions Italy would like to occupy (The beginning of the end, page 285-286). The fact that the fascists wanted to negotiate with Italy is confirmed also by the testimony of Metaxa's minister Amvrosios Tzifos that wrote "The deadline was in 3 hours so nothing could be done, even if there was the smallest attitude" (rough translation by me, the original: "Εξάλλου η προθεσμία του τελεσιγράφου ήτο τριώρος...ώστε δεν εδίδετο καν καιρός διά οιανδήποτε ενέργειαν, έστω και αν υπήρχε η παραμικρά διάθεσις"). The "NO" was the creation of paid by the government newspapers of the time for propaganda purposes, and the lie was continued by the Greek bourgeois state to justify why Greece celebrates the begging of the war and not the ending.

The real dialog went like this:

after reading the ultimatum:

Grazzi: "Mr. President, I must declare to you that in case of a noncompliance with the terms the Italian troops will conquer the Greek territory in 6 of the morning"

Metaxas: "Which strategic place wants Italy to occupy?"

Grazzi: "I do not know Mr. President"

Metaxas: "Mr. Ambassador, the context of the ultimatum and the way it was delivered to me mean war on behalf of Italy"

The dialog reported in Greek:

ΓΚΡΑΤΣΙ: «κ. Πρόεδρε, είμαι επιφορτισμένος να σας ανακοινώσω ότι, εις περίπτωσιν μη αποδοχής των όρων, τα ιταλικά στρατεύματα θα εισβάλουν εις το ελληνικόν έδαφος την 6ην πρωινήν.»

ΜΕΤΑΞΑΣ: «Ποια στρατηγικά σημεία θέλει να καταλάβει η Ιταλία;»

ΓΚΡΑΤΣΙ: «Δεν γνωρίζω, κ. Πρόεδρε.»

ΜΕΤΑΞΑΣ: «κ. Πρεσβευτά, το περιεχόμενον του τελεσιγράφου και ο τρόπος καθ'ον μοι επεδόθη σημαίνουν πόλεμον εκ μέρους της Ιταλίας

But even all these do not explain why Metaxas would surrender to Italy or even join the Axis powers in the first place. It is known that he was a fascist, a nazi sympathizer, a Hitler admirer so why didn't he surrender or join the Axis?

The truth is that joining the Axis Metaxas would suffer a heavy internal political loss. Joining them would demand giving Epirus and Preveza to the Italians and Eastern Macedonia and Thrace to the Bulgarians. But that was not the biggest problem Metaxas had, the biggest one is that the main lenders of Greece and stockholders of it's debt were "Hambro" of London "Speyer and Co" of New York and the National Bank of Athens. According to statistics from the time ("History of the Greek Nation-Volume 15" page 335-338) 67,42% of the external debt were British capitals, 9,88% were American, 7,52% were French, 5,40% Swedish and 3,44% Belgian, only 1,7% were German and 1,65% Italian. So basically the British owned Greece and Metaxas did not even hide it, he himself a few months before the declaration of war ("The

Secret archives of the foreign office" publications
"Πάπυρος" page 76) stated in the Daily Telegraph: "We are neutral as long as the UK wants us to be neutral. We will do nothing without coordination with the UK, and most of the time we do what the UK suggests. Greece is a vital part of Britain's Imperial Defense!" (rough translation by me the original: «Είμεθα ουδέτεροι εφ' όσον χρόνον η Αγγλία θέλει να είμεθα ουδέτεροι. Τίποτα δεν κάνομε χωρίς συνεννόησιν με την Αγγλία και, τις περισσότερες φορές ό,τι κάνομε γίνεται κατά σύστασιν ή παράκλησιν της Αγγλίας. Η Ελλάς είναι ζωτικό τμήμα της αγγλικής αυτοκρατορικής αμύνης»)

Concluding, Metaxas was not a hero, he was not brave and it is illogical for Greece to celebrate this day.

sources: Εμμανουελε Γκράτσι, "Η αρχή του τέλους-η επιχείρηση κατα της Ελλάδος, εκδόσεις Εστία"

Ιωάννης Μεταξάς, "Προσωπικό Ημερολόγιο, τόμος Δ" εκδόσεις Γκοβόστη"

"Τα Μυστικά Αρχεία του Φόρεϊν Οφφισ", ΒΙΠΕΡ, εκδόσεις «ΠΑΠΥΡΟΣ»

«Ιστορία Ελληνικού Έθνους» Εκδοτική Αθηνών τόμος ΙΕ

translation of the sources: Emanuele Grazzi "The beginning of the end-operation against Greece" publications "Εστία"

Ioannis Metaxas "Personal Journal, Volume 4" publications "Γκοβόστη"

"The Secret archives of the foreign office" publications
"Πάπυρος"

"The history of the Greek Nation-Volume 15" publications
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