



## National Campaign To Save The Ecumenical Patriarchate

NEW YORK, N.Y. - Strengthened by the addition of 17 new Archons, the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle has launched a national campaign to restore religious freedom and human rights to the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, the worldwide center of Orthodox Christianity.

Archbishop Iakovos, spiritual leader of Greek Orthodox Christians in the Americas, officiated on the Sunday of Orthodoxy at a Ceremony of Investiture during which he conferred the highest honor that the Church can bestow, the title of "Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate", upon 17 dedicated laymen from throughout the United States.

These new Archons will join their fellow members in the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle, which is undertaking an ambitious effort to raise the consciousness of Americans about the long-standing oppression and harassment of the Patriarchate by the Turkish government.

Partly by distributing up to one million copies of an informative pamphlet entitled "The Plight of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople", the Order is hoping to produce a groundswell of public opinion—not only among Orthodox Christians or Greek Americans but among the general populace.

National Archon Commander Dr. Anthony G. Borden outlined the campaign at a Sunday of Orthodoxy Banquet in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, where he announced that April 24th has been designated as "Ecumenical Patriarchate Sunday" with Priests speaking from the pulpit on the subject and distribution of the pamphlets in the Parishes.

"With persistence and dedication we will succeed in our efforts to save the Ecumenical Patriarchate," he said. "Fighting for justice and human dignity is not an exercise in futility. It is a difficult but inspiring struggle in which we should all participate.

"As defenders of the Faith, we understand that for significant historic, ethnic and religious reasons, the Ecumenical Patriarchate should remain in Constantinople where God—through St. Andrew—founded it in 36 A.D."



These buildings comprise the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, the worldwide center of Orthodox Christianity.

U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes, D-Md., a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, briefly addressed the audience in his capacity as an Archon.

Dr. John Brademas, who championed religious freedom and human rights around the world during 22 years in Congress before becoming President of New York University, delivered the main address. He, too, is an Archon.

Brademas spoke "about matters I believe to be of great importance to Americans of Greek origin—the survival of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Turkey, the issue of American-Greek-Turkish relations and the questions of how we as American citizens of Greek descent can and should bring our influence to bear on both questions.

"Let me say as forcefully as I can that we must not and cannot lose heart nor should we allow our earlier failures to deflect or discourage us. Instead, as we launch this new campaign, we must clarify the issues before us, identify the groups that share our concerns and mobilize their support.

"We are not here speaking of a narrow issue, one that concerns only Greeks and Greek Americans or, for that matter, solely Christians. We are rather voicing our concern about the sanctity of human and religious rights more broadly.

"I see here, therefore, an opportunity for effective coalition building that transcends religious, racial, ethnic and political loyalties.

"What Greek Americans discovered from the Cyprus crisis was that well organized political action, combined with able leadership and the right issue, could affect national policy.

"I am encouraged by the appointment of a valued friend, Congressman Gus Yatron of Pennsylvania, to chair the House Foreign Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Human Rights and International Organizations.

"I understand that Congressman Yatron plans soon to conduct hearings on Turkish violations of human rights, including, for the first time sessions on the situation of the Greek minority in Turkey and on the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Through such



— photo by Costa Hayden

Archbishop Iakovos, spiritual leader of Greek Orthodox Christians in the Americas, reads the names of the 17 new Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. Their investiture as defenders of the Faith took place on the Sunday of Orthodoxy at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity.

M12PP0025

hearings, we can draw these matters to the attention of the wider American public.

"For finally, in making our case, we must stress that this is an issue of concern not only to Greek Americans, nor is it merely a question of politics or diplomacy.

"We speak rather of something that transcends these issues; we speak of religious persecution and ethnic discrimination, of gross violations of international treaties. We speak of issues that are fundamentally moral in nature.

"We must, therefore, send our appeals to the United Nations, to the leaders of American Churches and synagogues, to the heads of all the world's Churches and denominations, and to organizations concerned with the rights of humankind. We must ask them to join a cause—which is their cause, too—the protection of human and religious rights.

"I remind you of words written 19 years ago by His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos: 'The Patriarchate is not a collection of buildings, walls and grounds. It is a living spiritual force embodied in an institution that has for centuries been the very core and heart of the Greek Orthodox Christian tradition.'

"You and I must make sure that this force, this institution, this tradition continues."

Archon Historian Dr. Deno Geanakoplos, Professor of Yale University, delivered the historical remarks entitled "The Orthodox Church and the Survival of the Greek People Under Turkish Domination". He is President-elect of the American Society of Church Historians, the first Orthodox Christian so honored.

"One of the miracles of history it seems to me," he said, "is the survival of the Greek people under Turkish domination in the four centuries between 1453 and 1821. This Turkish occupation was characterized by severe oppression, harassment, humiliation. . . at times even by purposeful decimation of the Greek population. Hundred of thousands of Greeks were executed. Entire villages were obliterated and their inhabitants replaced by Moslems.

"In view of all these unremitting pressures and almost intolerable conditions, how were the Greek people able to survive their long ordeal? I think their survival should be attributed in considerable part to the Greek Orthodox Church, headed by its Ecumenical Patriarch in Constantinople, and particularly to the lowly town and village Priests who clung tenaciously to the faith and were able to impart no small degree of strength to their parishioners.

*The 17 newly elected Archons on the Sunday of Orthodoxy are:*

John Billinis	John N. Parker
Dr. George Bithos	Nick Payne
George Douris	Paul M. Psillos
John Giovanni	Peter Sedereas
Andrew G. Kampiziones	George Speal
James Kirie	Nicholas Trataros
Dr. Thomas C. Lelon	Zenon Trivelis
John G. Loizos	Dr. George Zazanis
George Nicholas	

#### Archon Emblems:

Silver Cross	\$ 200.00	Founder Sash	\$1,000.00
Lapel Pin	10.00	ARCHON Album	100.00
Pocket Emblem	10.00		

To order please send in check for proper amount making it payable to the *Order of St. Andrew*.

Please notify us if there is any change of address or status of an Archon.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We are establishing a question and answer column in the *ARCHON*. If you have any concerns or thoughts, please communicate with the Editor: THE *ARCHON*/8 East 79 Street/New York, NY 10021 (All letters can either be signed, or names can be withheld upon request). The *ARCHON* reserves the right to edit letters for space requirements.

## Executive Officer And State Commander Visit Ecumenical Patriarchate

The Reverend Dr. Miltiades B. Efthimiou, Executive Officer of the Order of St. Andrew, and Archon Depoutatos Thomas Demery, State Commander of the Order from Detroit, and Chairman of the "Plight of the Patriarchate" pamphlet used in the 1983 national campaign, visited the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Istanbul, Turkey, during the month of June. The purpose of the visit was to meet with the Ecumenical Patriarch, His All Holiness Demetrios I, and members of the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in order to discuss the situation and the needs of the Patriarchate. Fr. Efthimiou and Archon Demery brought the best wishes of the Order of St. Andrew. They also briefed the Patriarch and the Synod on the various activities, goals and objectives of the Order in the United States, and received some guidance and direction as to how the Archons can proceed to even further the support that has heretofore marked the progress and scope of the Order.

While in Istanbul, Fr. Efthimiou and Archon Demery visited the various Institutions connected with the Patriarchate, and, in particular, the Hospital of Balukli, which is one of the charitable institutions supported by the Order. Dr. Karamouratoglou, Director of the Hospital, told of the appalling conditions at Balukli. Approximately \$1,000.00 per year per patient is budgeted, an incredibly small amount. The financial problem became more acute when as a result of recent Turkish law citizens are not allowed to make any arrangements with the facility to bequeath any assets they may have for subsistence and care during the balance of their living years at the hospital.

The trip may be considered a supplement to the national campaign which was launched during the weekend of the Sunday of Orthodoxy, and to the pamphlet, which was distributed to all the 550 parishes of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America. The purpose of the pamphlet is to enlighten the public about the conditions which prevail in Turkey. The purpose of the visit is to bring back up-to-date news in order to further enlighten the Greek Orthodox constituency in the Americas as to the extent of the problems in Turkey relative to the Ecumenical Patriarchate so that, in the words of Dr. Anthony Borden, National Commander, "an improvement in the present conditions can be brought about".



*Resident ladies of Balukli Hospital, Istanbul, Turkey. The hospital is under the auspices of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and is helped by the Order with financial contributions.*

## Moslem And Greek Christian Minorities

In March 1982, the Turkish government implied that the government of Greece was threatening to expropriate the property belonging to the Moslem minorities living in western Thrace. Such actions they said would lead to reprisals against the few remaining Greek Christians left in Turkey. This action is typical of the Turkish government, in times of friction with Greece, to use the Moslem minority of western Thrace as a weapon in its propaganda war. It is also designed to disrupt Greece's good relations with its Arab neighbors and the Arab Moslem world in general. Turkey's allocations could not be farther from the truth—if anything—it is the Greek Christian minorities in Turkey that have shrunken through constant harassment. Let the facts speak for themselves!

(Continued on page 3)

M12PP0026

# Successful Meetings Of The Order Held During February and March, 1983

**PHOENIX MEETING** - The Meeting on Saturday, February 26, 1983 in Phoenix, Arizona was very successful. The Patriarchate was discussed at length. The discussion ensued around whether or not the Patriarchate should move, but it was unanimously felt that all efforts should be made to assist the Patriarchate in its present position. It was suggested that other religious figures like Billy Graham, Rev. Schuller, and others of this stature be contacted to support our cause. Many supported the idea that the Patriarch should travel on pastoral visits similar to those taken by the Pope of Rome. His Grace Bishop Anthimos, and His Excellency Metropolitan Silas spoke on behalf of the Patriarchate and exhorted the members to do everything in their power to assist the Ecumenical Patriarchate remain in its present site. At this point, Tom Demery, Regional Commander of the Detroit area assumed the chairmanship. Mr. Demery spoke about the pamphlet, *Plight of the Patriarchate*. It was moved to utilize the pamphlet, with a few minor corrections, for the national campaign on behalf of the Patriarchate. It was also moved that telegrams be sent to the Ecumenical Patriarch affirming the Order's love and commitment and devotion to the Mother Church.

**SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY WEEKEND** - On March 26-27, throughout the United States, Sunday of Orthodoxy was celebrated with gatherings and banquets, as well as the religious ceremonies following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, March 27th, the first Sunday of Lent, the Sunday of Orthodoxy. Successful meetings were held in New York and Chicago, at Sts. Constantine and Helen Church in Palos Hills, Illinois with His Grace Bishop Iakovos and other clergy officiating, and in the New York Archdiocesan Cathedral, with the Syrian Antiochian Archbishop Philip presiding, along with His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos and other prelates and clergy of the Orthodox Church.

a. March 26th meeting at Waldorf-Astoria. More than 100 persons attended the afternoon meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria in order to discuss several items of importance. A great deal of discussion took place on "Plight of the Patriarchate" and the members present scrutinized the pamphlet prepared by Archon Thomas Demery of Detroit and edited by Archon Prof. Deno Geanakoplos of Yale University. The purpose of this pamphlet is to bring to the attention of the community at large the grave situation that exists today at the Phanar. at Istanbul, Turkey, the seat of World Orthodoxy. The afternoon meeting was also utilized as a forum for a questions and answer period. The new candidates for induction into the Order were presented to the group and addressed by His Excellency, Metropolitan Silas of New Jersey representing Archbishop Iakovos at the meeting. They were charged by His Excellency to be a living presence and witnesses for the needs of the Patriarchate, the center of Greek Orthodoxy not only in America but in the world. Presentations were made by Archon Thomas Demery of Detroit, Dr. Anthony G. Borden, National Commander, Archon John Linakis who presided over the election of officers, and Archon Chris Philip who presented the treasurer's report. Archon Christo Daphnides presented a first glance at the new Archon's Album, which will be formally presented to the community at large following the weekend's festivities. He also presented the new banner/lavaron of the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle to the group. Mr. Daphnides was acclaimed by the National Commander for a job well done. Master of Ceremonies of the afternoon session was the Rev. Dr. Miltiades B. Efthimiou, the Executive Officer of the Order.

**BANQUET** - The banquet was held at the Waldorf-Astoria and was well attended by over 250 people. Speeches were made by Tasso Manassis, banquet Chairman; Senator Paul Sarbanes of Maryland; Professor Deno J. Geanakoplos; and Dr. John Brademas who was the main speaker. Master of Ceremonies was Mr. Michael Sotirhos, President of the Board of Directors of the Arch-

diocesan Cathedral. Representing His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos who was indisposed, was His Excellency Metropolitan Silas. Entertainment for the evening was by the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church choir of Flushing, New York, which presented a musical program dedicated to Greek independence. The combination of Greek independence and Sunday of Orthodoxy was carried out by the various committees very effectively. Blue and white flowers were donated by Archon Kostas Vellios, and a large floral design of the Greek flag and Byzantine eagle was donated by Mr. George Mavromatis. Both were acknowledged for their continuous and annual contributions to this event.

**TORONTO MEETING** - During the week of March 28th, the Prime Minister of Greece and his advisors visited Toronto, Canada. Among other dignitaries, the National Commander of the Order of St. Andrew, representing all Archons, was present at the meetings held with the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister expressed his support for the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and agreed that the Patriarch should remain in Constantinople because otherwise, there is a possibility that this center of Orthodoxy would fall into the hands of the Russians if the Patriarch would move. The Prime Minister also expressed concern that if the Patriarchate were to move, all the other Patriarchates might be in danger of succumbing. The Prime Minister extended an invitation to His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos to come to Athens to continue a dialogue in order to improve communications between Greece and America and the Greek Orthodoxy constituency of both countries as well as to find ways and means of breaking down misunderstandings between our two countries. He also approved of our efforts to educate the authorities in Washington and to alert the public to the plight of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

## MOSLEMS AND GREEK CHRISTIAN MINORITIES

(Continued from page 2)

- The original Moslem minority in western Thrace at the time of the Treaty of Lausanne (1923) numbered 100,000 and has now increased to 110,000 (1981 data). Two members of this community represent their constituents in the Greek Parliament. That Moslem population of western Thrace has the use of 205 mosques and 90 smaller places of worship, all supported by Greek state funds.

There are 261 Moslem grade schools in western Thrace, attended by 12,760 pupils. The two Moslem high schools have a total of 641 students. And there are also two religious seminaries.

- By contrast, the 1923 total Greek Orthodox population of Turkey was 200,000. It was almost halved by the time of the 1934 census by the Lausanne Commission; down to less than 80,000 following the violent mob attacks on Greek property in Istanbul in September 1955; and is currently reduced to a bare remnant of some 5,000.

There are now only some 15 Greek elementary schools in Turkey, attended by 433 pupils; and 6 high schools with 378 students. That is all that remains of a once flourishing Greek educational system.

Measures to restrict the influence of the Greek Orthodox Church of which Istanbul is the centuries-old center under the Patriarch, have included intervention in the elections of the Patriarch; the closure in 1971 of the historic Orthodox seminary of Halkis; the expropriation of church buildings and church property; the imposition of heavy real estate taxes; expulsion of some Orthodox priests from the country; travel restrictions on others; refusal of permission for essential repairs to church structures; prohibition of Greek Orthodox prayers in schools and group church attendances by Greek school pupils; closure of Patriarchy's printing press, etc.

This is only a brief summary, but typifies the harassment of the Greek community in Turkey.

M12PP0027

## Archbishop Iakovos Bestows Offikia On 3 Carpatho-Russian Churchmen



His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos invests three laymen as Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in the Cathedral of Christ the Saviour in Johnstown, Pa. Standing behind His Eminence is Bishop John of Nyssa and the new Archons are (left to right): Frank Finui, John Halecky, and Richard Radick.

The Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church officiated at ceremonies on Wednesday evening, April 28, 1983, in which three laymen received Patriarchal honors for service to our faith.

Archbishop Iakovos installed the laymen as Archons of the Ecumenical See and members of the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle. The ceremonies followed the celebration of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts at Christ the Saviour Cathedral, Morrellville, Pa.

In addition to being the Primate of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of the Americas, Archbishop Iakovos is exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople in the Western Hemisphere.

Frank Finui of Jennerstown, Pa., was among the three men who received the highest ecclesiastical award that can be bestowed by Ecumenical Patriarch Demetrios I, spiritual leader of about 250 million Eastern Orthodox Christians.

Other laymen of the Johnstown-based American Carpatho-Russian Greek Catholic Diocese who received the honors are John Halecky Jr. of Bayonne, N.J., and Richard Radick of Sharon, Pa.

### First for Diocese

This marked the first time that such honors have been bestowed in the local Diocese. It was also the first time in history of the Ecumenical Patriarchate that three non-Greeks have been so honored by the Church of Constantinople.

Mr. Finui, a member of St. Mary's Orthodox Church, Jennerstown, has served on the Diocesan board of trustees and finance committee for 18 years and as chairman of the auditing committee for seven years. He is chairman of the building fund of the Jennerstown Church and a past president.

The Somerset County man is president of the Peoples Bank and Trust Co., Jennerstown, and serves as chairman of the Educational Seminars of Independent Bankers of Pennsylvania at Pennsylvania State University. He is a director of the Children's Aid Society of Somerset.

Mr. Halecky is the Diocesan financial secretary. Mr. Radick

### THE ARCHON

Publication of the Order of St. Andrew of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America. Published periodically as a chronicle of events, news and announcements for members of the Order.

Mail Address: *The Archon*/9601 Bustleton Avenue/Philadelphia, PA 19115. Att: Dr. Anthony G. B. Borden.

## Excerpts from Letters Received In Support Of The Plight Of The Patriarchate

### CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

In The United States and Canada

I want you to know that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and I, personally, share the concern of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is in touch with the Ecumenical Patriarchate through the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches. Dr. Dale L. Bishop, of our Middle East office, keeps us informed of developments.

Kenneth L. Teegarden  
General Minister and President

\* \* \*

### THE AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Office of the President

I empathize with you in this tragic situation. It is my prayer that there might be reciprocity by the Turkish government to the interventions that are being made and that the Greek Orthodox Patriarch in Istanbul might be free to fulfill his ministry.

David W. Preus  
Presiding Bishop

\* \* \*

### CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

The Treaty of Lausanne and other agreements were to have guaranteed the rights of the Patriarch and non-Muslim minorities in Turkey. However, it seems that extreme suppression and reprisals make it difficult for the spiritual head of the Orthodox Church to exercise his duties and authority.

The continuity of the Patriarchate of Constantinople (Istanbul) which dates back to the Apostle Andrew is profoundly significant not only to Orthodoxy, but also to all of Christendom, as we continue to work with our ally, Turkey, we must remember to allow upon its leaders to allow the Ecumenical Patriarchate to function without interference or harassment, to allow it to function freely as the Holy See of one of the world's religions.

C.W. Bill Young  
Member of Congress

donated a 289 acre tract in Mercer County for Camp Nazareth, the Diocesan retreat and conference center.

Each of the men had received a special title or "offikion" from Patriarch Demetrios.

In a personal letter from the Ecumenical Patriarch, Mr. Finui was designated as "Archon Great Hartophylax", or "Guardian of Official Documents of the Great Church of Christ".

### Other Celebrants

The Most Rev. John R. Martin, Bishop of the local Diocese, also was a celebrant, along with Diocesan clergy.

Responses were sung in English by the congregation in the traditional lenten Carpatho-Russian chant. The singing was led by the Johnstown Deanery Male Chorus under the direction of the Very Rev. Msgr. Michael Slovesko of Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Windber.

The Very Rev. Msgr. John Yurcisin, Cathedral Dean and Diocesan Chancellor, was the host pastor for the visit of the Archbishop and the Patriarchal ceremony.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop John (Martin) of Nyssa is spiritual leader of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Diocese in the United States of America.

M 12 P P 002-8