

Η ΕΝΔΟΞΗ ΠΟΡΕΙΑ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΑΣ ΣΤΟΥΣ ΒΑΛΚΑΝΙΚΟΥΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΥΣ 1912 - 1913

Μετά της ταπεινωτική ήττα της Ελλάδας στον Ελληνο-Τουρκικό Πόλεμο του 1897 αρχίζει μια σταδιακή απόπειρα ανασυγκρότησης των ελληνικών Ενόπλων Δυνάμεων. Πρωτεργάτης σε αυτό το εγχείρημα καταρχήν τίθεται ο Πρωθυπουργός Γεώργιος Θεοτόκης. Η αγορά σύγχρονου πολεμικού υλικού και η πραγματοποίηση συνεχών γυμνασίων και ασκήσεων οδηγούν στη συγκρότηση μιας αξιόμαχης δύναμης 60.000 ανδρών. Η επανάσταση των Νεοτούρκων (1908) και η εθνικιστική πολιτική που ακολουθούν περιορίζουν τα προνόμια των εθνικών μειονοτήτων της Βαλκανικής Χερσονήσου και καταλήγουν συχνά σε οικονομικό αποκλεισμό, διώξεις και απελάσεις. Η σύμπραξη και η συνεργασία των Βαλκανικών κρατών φαντάζει ως η μόνη λύση για την εκδίωξη των Οθωμανών από την Ευρώπη. Το 1909 η εκδήλωση στην Αθήνα του κινήματος στου Γουδή καταλήγει στην καθιέρωση στην ελληνική πολιτική σκηνή του Ελευθέριου Βενιζέλου. Ως Πρωθυπουργός συνεχίζει την οικονομική ανόρθωση της χώρας αλλά και την αναδιοργάνωση του στρατού και του στόλου. Παράλληλα, επιτυγχάνει την έγκαιρη και ισότιμη συμμετοχή της Ελλάδας στο πλέγμα των βαλκανικών συμμαχιών με την υπογραφή της Ελληνο-Βουλγαρικής Συνθήκης. Συγκροτείται λοιπόν μια ισχυρή τετραμερής Βαλκανική συμμαχία

ενάντια στους Τούρκους, με επίκεντρο τη Σόφια. Στις 5/18 Οκτωβρίου 1912, με διάγγελμα του Βασιλέα Γεωργίου Α', η Ελλάδα εισέρχεται στη σύρραξη. Με την ολοκλήρωση των δυο Βαλκανικών Πολέμων η Ελλάδα πετυχαίνει μεγάλο μέρος των στόχων της. Διπλασιάζει την έκτασή της, αυξάνει σημαντικά τον πληθυσμό της και αποτελεί πια μια υπολογίσιμη δύναμη στην Ανατολική Μεσόγειο.

Σκοπός του εκθέματος είναι η παρουσίαση μέσω των επιστολικών δελταρίων διαφόρων εκδοτών της εποχής, βήμα προς βήμα, της επίπονης και ένδοξης πορείας της Ελλάδας στους Βαλκανικούς Πολέμους 1912-1913.

Διάρθρωση του Εκθέματος:

ΠΛΑΙΣΙΟ 1 - Φύλλα 2-3: Η Προπαρασκευή, **4-7:** Οι Πρωταγωνιστές, **7-10:** Ο Ελληνικός Στρατός, **11-13:** Οι Εθελοντές, **14-16:** Η Έναρξη του Πολέμου

ΠΛΑΙΣΙΟ 2 - 17-20: Α' Βαλκανικός Πόλεμος: Οι επιχειρήσεις στη Θεσσαλία **21-32:** στη Μακεδονία

ΠΛΑΙΣΙΟ 3 - Α' Βαλκανικός Πόλεμος: Οι επιχειρήσεις του Ναυτικού στο Αιγαίο Πέλαγος

ΠΛΑΙΣΙΟ 4 - 49-62: Α' Βαλκανικός Πόλεμος: Οι επιχειρήσεις στην Ήπειρο

63: Η δολοφονία του Βασιλέα Γεωργίου Α' - **64:** Ο Κωνσταντίνος Βασιλεύς των Ελλήνων

ΠΛΑΙΣΙΟ 5 - 65-76: Β' Βαλκανικός Πόλεμος, **76-78:** Η συνθήκη ειρήνης, **78-80:** Ο ελληνικός θρίαμβος

Οδηγός κατάστασης επιστολικών δελταρίων: (**) Unused, (*) Used, (o) Posted

Βιβλιογραφία:

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- *Χαράλαμπος Μπάστας - Η ένδοξη πορεία της Ελλάδας στους Βαλκανικούς Πολέμους 1912 - 1913, Μια σύντομη διήγηση με οδηγό επιστολικά δελτάρια της εποχής*, «Φιλοτελική Λέσβος» τ. 291 - 294, 2023 - 2024



THE PREPARATIONS

Georgios Theotokis, (8 February 1844 – 12 January 1916)

(in Greek: Γεώργιος Θεοτόκης)

was a Greek politician and Prime Minister of Greece, serving the post four times.

He represented the Modernist Party or Neoteristikon Komma (NK).

From mid-1903 to 1909 Theotokis became three times Prime Minister of Greece, the third time being the longest at the prime minister's post. Among his achievements are the organisation and strengthening of the army, including the adoption of modern khaki uniforms.

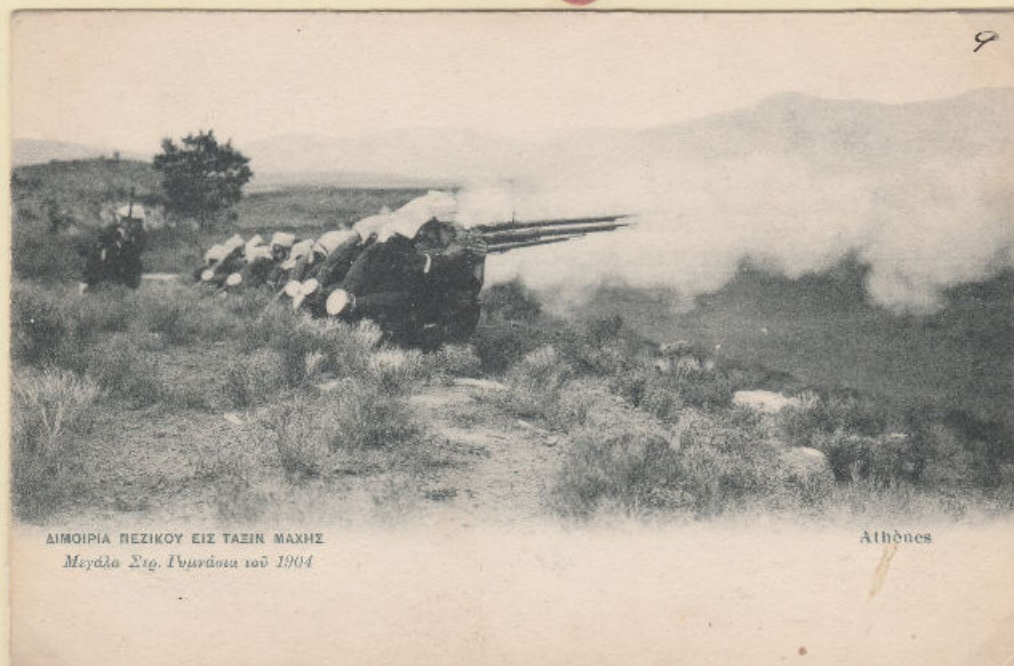
He provided assistance for the Macedonian Struggle and is noted for his calm and deliberate foreign policy in the tense period just prior to the Balkan Wars (1912–1913).



Repro. of a painting signed by G. Samartzis (1868-1925) (**)



Χρηματοπολιτογραφικὸν Ἐργαστῆριον Κ. Γ. Ἀθηνῶν - Κέρκυρα.



ΔΙΟΜΟΙΡΙΑ ΠΕΖΙΚΟΥ ΕΙΣ ΤΑΣΙΝ ΜΑΧΗΣ
Μεγάλα Στρατ. Γυμνάσια τοῦ 1904

Athènes

Infantry platoon in battle formation - Great Military exercises of 1904 (**)

474 P & C Athenes

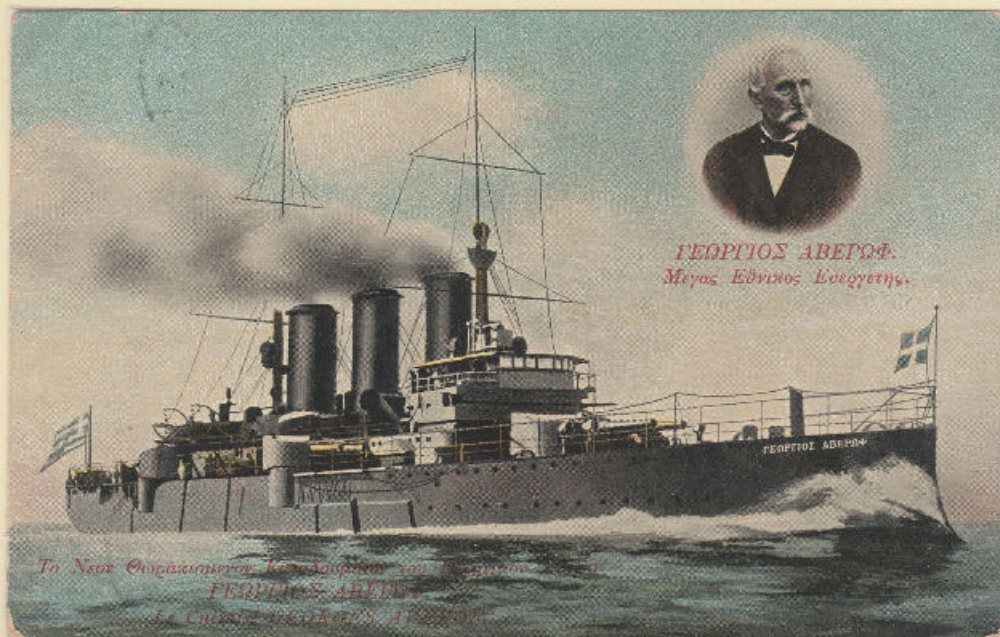
THE PREPARATIONS



The great inspection by the Crown Prince in Leventis Inn
Great Military exercises of 1907. (o) Greece to Paris, France, illegible postmarks
1082 Pallis & Cotzias - Athenes
(Interesting depiction of the bourgeoisie watching military exercises)

George M. Averof (15 August 1815 – 15 July 1899), (in Greek: Γεώργιος Αβέρωφ), was a Greek businessman and philanthropist. He is one of the great national benefactors of Greece. Born in the town of Metsovo, Epirus Greece, then Ottoman Empire, Averof moved to Alexandria, Egypt while still young. He was known through most of his life for founding numerous schools in both Egypt and Greece.

Georgios Averof (in Greek: Θ/Κ Γ. Αβέρωφ) is a modified armored cruiser built in Italy for the Royal Hellenic Navy in the first decade of the 20th century. The amount of the advance payment (1/3 of the total) came from the will of Averof while the remaining was covered by the National Fleet Fund. Although popularly known as a battleship (θωρηκτό in Greek), she is in fact an armored cruiser, the only ship of this type still in existence. Launched in 1910, *Averof* arrived in Greece in September 1911. The most modern warship in the Aegean at the time, served as the flagship of admiral P. Kountouriotis in the First Balkan War, and played a major role in the establishment of Greek predominance over the Ottoman Navy and the incorporation of many Aegean islands to Greece.



Georgios Averof - The great national benefactor
The new armored cruiser of the Greek fleet, the Georgios Averof
unknown editor, (o) Greece to Genève, Swiss, illegible postmarks

THE PROTAGONISTS

George I, (1845 –1913)

(in Greek: Γεώργιος Α΄)
was King of Greece
from 30 March 1863
until his assassination
on 18 March 1913.

Originally a Danish prince,
George was born in Copenhagen
and seemed destined for a career
in the Royal Danish Navy.
He was only 17 when
he was elected king by
the Greek National Assembly
which had deposed the unpopular
King Otto. His nomination was both
suggested and supported by
the Great Powers of the era.
George's reign of almost 50 years
(the longest in modern Greek history)
was characterized by territorial gains
as Greece established its place
in pre-WW I Europe.

During the First Balkan War
George was assassinated
in Thessaloniki.



George I, King of Greece

unknown editor, (o) Dyrhacheion 23 1 1913 to Athens
via ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗ 7 ΦΕΒ 1913

Eleftherios Kyriakou Venizelos (1864 –1936)

(in Greek: Ελευθέριος Κυριάκου Βενιζέλος),
was a Cretan Greek statesman and prominent
leader of the Greek national liberation movement.
He is noted for his contribution to the expansion
of Greece and promotion of liberal-democratic
policies. As leader of the Liberal Party, he held
office as Prime Minister for over 12 years,
spanning eight terms between 1910 and 1933.
During his governance, Venizelos entered into
diplomatic cooperation with the Great Powers
and had a profound influence on the domestic
and external affairs of Greece.
He has therefore been labelled as
"The Creator of Modern Greece"
and is still widely known as the "Ethnarch".

Before the Balkan Wars of 1912–1913,
Venizelos' catalytic role helped gain Greece's
entry into the Balkan League, an alliance of
the Balkan states against the Ottoman Empire.
Through his diplomatic acumen with the Great
Powers and with the other Balkan countries,
Greece doubled its area and population with
the liberation of Macedonia, Epirus and most
of the Aegean Islands.



ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΙΟΣ ΒΕΝΙΖΕΛΟΣ

Πρωθυπουργός τῆς Ἑλλάδος 1912

Eleftherios Venizelos, Prime Minister of Greece 1912 ()**

Editeur Jean Boucas - Oaire.

THE PROTAGONISTS



*The allies and their flags, King Peter I of Serbia, King Nikolas I of Montenegro,
King Ferdinand I of Bulgaria, King George I of Greece*

(**) unknown editor, based on an artwork by the Czech artist Nejedlý Karel (1873-1927), signed Nejedlý - K.

The **Balkan League** was a quadruple alliance formed by a series of bilateral treaties concluded in 1912 between the Eastern Orthodox kingdoms of **Greece, Bulgaria, Serbia and Montenegro** and directed against the Ottoman Empire, which still controlled much of Southeastern Europe.

The League was victorious in the **First Balkan War** which broke out in October 1912, where it successfully seized control of almost all European Ottoman territories. After the victory, however, unresolved prior differences between the allies re-emerged over the division of the territories, particularly Macedonia, leading to the break-up of the League, and soon after, on 16 June 1913, Bulgaria attacked her former allies, beginning the **Second Balkan War**.



Allegorical depiction of the allies against Turkish territories

(Interesting depiction of the Bulgarian monarch above the rest) (**) unknown Bulgarian editor

THE PROTAGONISTS

Constantine I (1868 – 1923),
(in Greek: Κωνσταντίνος Α')
was King of Greece
from 18 March 1913 to 11 June 1917
and from 19 December 1920 to 27 September 1922.
After graduating from the Officers' School of Athens in 1886,
he continued his military education
in the Berlin Military Academy.
His staying in Berlin is thought to have greatly contributed
to the formation of the future king's pro-German attitude.
He was commander – in – chief
of the Hellenic Army during the unsuccessful
Greco – Turkish War of 1897 and with the decisive
intervention of Venizelos led the Greek forces
during the successful Balkan Wars of 1912–1913.
The eldest son of George I of Greece,
he succeeded to the throne following his father's
assassination in 1913.



P. Danglis, Chief of staff of the Crown Prince 1912 ()**

Editor Jean Boucas, Cairo.

Charming postcards by a special publisher

of the Hellenism diaspora of Egypt highlighting the interest of the Hellenism diaspora in the national affairs.



Constantine I, Victorious Army Commander ()**
Decorating depictions of the Royal Family, Venizelos
and symbols of the «Great Idea»

A. B. Paschas, Athina-Patras.

Panagiotis Danglis (1853 – 1924),
was a Hellenic Army general and politician.

He was particularly notable for his service
as chief of staff in the Balkan Wars.

In 1911, Danglis was promoted to Major General,
and became head of the Army General Staff in August 1912,
and on the outbreak of the First Balkan War months later
he became chief of staff to Crown Prince Constantine's
Army of Thessaly until November 1912.

Later, Danglis became commander of the army in Epirus,
comprising the 2nd, 3rd, 8th, and 13th divisions.
Operations had largely been concluded so that his main task
was completing the occupation of Northern Epirus,
pacifying the local population and strengthening Greek
claims in the region, which were being challenged by Italy.

Inventor of the Schneider – Danglis mountain gun.

THE PROTAGONISTS

Pavlos Kountouriotis (1855 – 1935).

Military man, politician, President of the Hellenic Republic. In 1912 he was appointed by Venizelos the leader of the Greek fleet. During the Balkan Wars, Kountouriotis with the main strike force, the battleship Averof, imposed Greek sovereignty in an absolute manner in the Aegean sea, liberating all the islands of the central and Northern Aegean, blocking the Turkish fleet in the Dardanelles straits.



ΠΑΥΛΟΣ ΚΟΥΝΤΟΥΡΙΩΤΗΣ
Αρχηγός του Έλληνος του Αιγαίου.
Pavlos Kountouriotis, Commander of the Aegean fleet (**)

Editeur Jean Boucas - Oairs.

THE GREEK ARMY

The victories in the Balkan Wars established new officers from the broader social strata, who would become the protagonists in the following years on both military and political level.



Φικιώρης, Ζερβίτης, Δελαγραμμάτικας, Σβορώνος, Κονταράτος.
ΕΛΛΗΝΟ - ΤΟΥΡΚΙΚΟΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ 1912—1913. "Ελληνες αξιωματικοί"

Greek – Turkish War 1912 – 1913, Greek Army Officers ()**

Εκδόσεις Γ. Ν. Αλεξάνη—Εν Πρωτεί αρ. 180

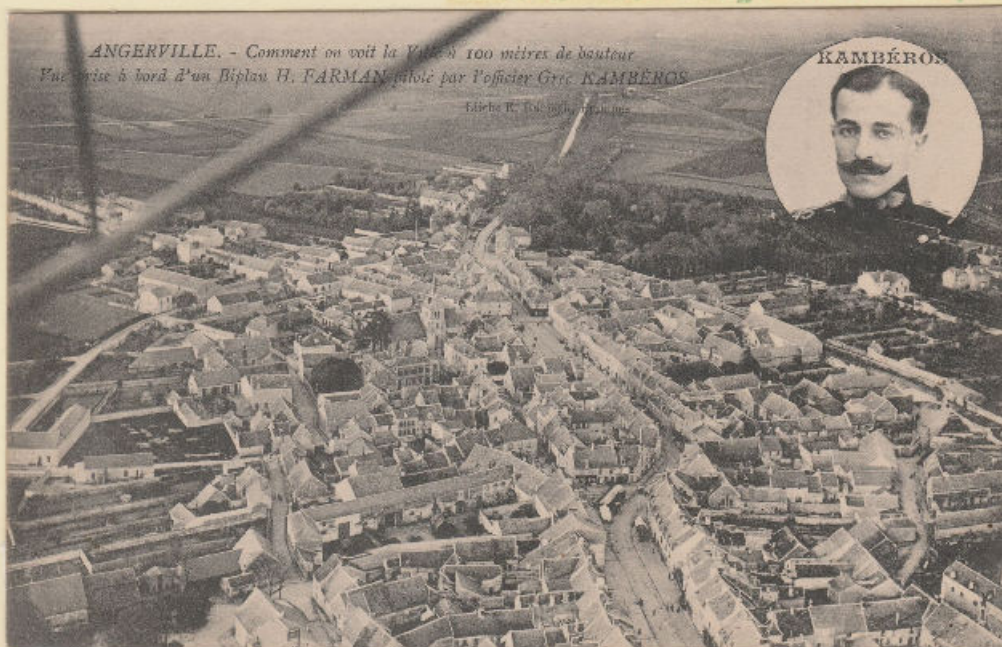
THE GREEK ARMY

The Greek Army officers and non-commissioned-officers demonstrated unparalleled bravery and heroism. More than 900 fell or were wounded on the battlefields.



Greek Army non-commissioned-Officers (*)

Εκδοσις Μ. Ν. Μιχαλοπούλου Ἀθῆναι 64



Angerville, France – The city view from 100 meters above. Taken on board of a H. Farman biplane piloted by the Greek officer Dimitrios Kamberos (top right), Cliché E. Rameau, Etampes (o) ANGERVILLE – SEINE ET OISE 14 7 12

Lieutenant D. Kamberos was trained at the Henri Farman aircraft construction school in France. He was hastily recalled at the outbreak of the war. He participated in an Aviation Company consisting of four single-seat Farman type airplanes.

On 5/10/1912 he took off on a reconnaissance flight. This was the world's first flight on a war front.



(photocopy)

THE GREEK ARMY

The Greek army was reorganized and equipped with modern weapons. From 1907, the Greek army began to receive Austrian long rifles and short carbines Mannlicher-Schönauer M 1903 that were manufactured specifically for the Greeks and replaced the French-made Gras M 1874. They were used in the Balkan Wars and in the subsequent struggles of the Greek nation until 1941.



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΣΤΡΑΤΟΣ - ΣΩΜΑ ΠΕΖΙΚΟΝ

*Greek Army - Infantry (**)*

Έκδοτης Στέφ. Στουρνάρας εν Βόλῳ.



Souvenir de Salvaïque (Grèce)

ΕΛΛΗΝ ΠΟΛΕΜΙΣΤΗΣ 1912.
(Guerrier grec.)

*Greek Fighter 1912 (**)*

Editeur A. B. Paschas. - Α. Β. Πάσχα - Athènes - Patras

Greek infantry soldier. He wears a French-style peaked cap. The red color of the military body to which he belongs, on the collar and tunic, is characteristic. He carries a 6.5mm Mannlicher rifle with 6 cartridges, accompanied by a short M1903 bayonet. The photo was shot in the studio of Stefanos Stournaras. The artist was a painter and leading Greek photographer, representative of the Pictorialism movement. He published more than 1000 postcards in Volos, Thessaly.

THE GREEK ARMY



A group of Evzones - Heroes of 1912 - 1913, unk. editor, ()*

The Evzones battalions were elite infantry units with an offensive orientation in battle. They were manned mainly by rural people familiar with nature and war.



Greek - Turkish War 1912 - 1913, Greek Officers and non - commissioned Officers of the 2nd Company of Bridge Engineers ()*

Εκδ. Γ. Ν. Αλεξάνη 'Εν Πειραιά σφ. 270

THE VOLUNTEERS

Spyros Matsoukas, (1870-1928) fighter, volunteer, folk poet. He participated in all national struggles since 1896, leading every patriotic movement. He traveled to America and raised funds with the Greek diaspora. Thus, the destroyer "Nea Genca" was purchased and a unit of Artillery under the same name was created. He followed the army, exciting the soldiers with his poems. He founded the "White Cross" Company for the endowment of the orphan daughters of the war.



*Spyros Matsoukas – National Poet (**)*

Éditeur Jean Boucas - Oaire.



*Spyros Matsoukas putting Greek Americans under oath before the Greek flag (**)*

A. G. Pallis - Athenes

THE VOLUNTEERS

Soon after the start of the operations, 3,500 volunteers from Crete responded to the call. The "Independent Cretan Regiment" was created from the first three battalions of volunteers from Crete, which operated mainly in Epirus (Bizani, Northern Epirus) but also in Macedonia (Kavala, Nevrokopi), Xanthi and Komotini. It is said that it was them that the war cry "Air" was shouted by for the first time, during the siege of Ioannina.



ΕΚΣΤΡΑΤΕΙΑ 1912. ΚΡΗΤΕΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΙΣΤΑΙ
La Guerre Balkanique 1912/13. Guerriers Crétois

Campaign 1912 – Cretan fighters ()*

(Interesting observation: According to the old Cretan traditions, the names of the fighters are inscribed on the butts of their rifles, "George Manouselis, Cretan" and "I.B.Daskalakis, Cretan")

342 Έκδοσης Δελφ. Στρατηγός Σωτήριος δ' Εφραίμης
της Α. Ε. Υ. του Διαδόχου, Έν Δελφ.

Halkidiki was liberated by the corps of Macedonian volunteers who were lightly armed infantry groups.



Souvenir de Salonique (Grèce)

ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΟΝ ΣΩΜΑ ΧΑΛΚΙΔΙΚΗΣ 1912.
ΑΡΧΗΓΟΣ ΑΘ. ΜΗΝΟΠΟΥΛΟΣ.

Volunteer corps of Halkidiki 1912 – Commander Ath. Minopoulos ()*

Légitimeur A. B. Paschas – A. B. Πάσχος – Athènes – Patras

THE VOLUNTEERS



Ἡπειρώται ἐθελονταὶ ἐν τῇ Ζαπέϊον.

Épirotes volontaires à Zapeion.

Volunteers from Epirus in Zappeion (volunteers' registration area)
Special Relief Fund Postal Card (**)



(photocopy)

The volunteers from Epirus formed 9 guerrilla corps with a total strength of approximately 500 men, which operated in the region of their origin.



Greek – Turkish War 1912: Princess Mary's floating hospital, unk. editor, numb. 201 ()*
The 250-bed floating hospital "Albania" was set up with the care and expense of Princess Marie Bonaparte, wife of Prince George.

THE START OF THE WAR



Ο ΑΥΛΑΡΧΗΣ
ΜΕΡΚΑΤΗΣ

Ο ΠΡΩΘΥΠΟΥΡΓΟΣ Ο ΣΤΡΑΤΗΓΟΣ
Ε. ΒΕΝΙΖΕΛΟΣ ΔΑΓΚΛΗΣ

Ο ΣΤΡΑΤΗΓΟΣ Ο ΓΑΛ. ΣΤΡΑΤΗΓ.
ΓΙΑΝΝΑΡΟΣ ΕΥΔΟΥ

F. R. & Z.
Athen

*Courtier Merkatis, Prime Minister E. Venizelos,
General Danglis, General Giannaros, the French General Eydoy (sic), F. R. & Z. Athen (**)*

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗΣ ΠΙΝΑΚΟΘΗΚΗΣ

Prime Minister Venizelos and officials at the Athens railway station waiting for the Crown Prince shortly before his departure for the front. The General Eydoux, (misspelled as "Eydoy" on the above card's description), head of the French forces, contributed to the reorganization of the Greek army.



Σύδρη Σταθμός Ἀθηνῶν.
Ἀναχώρησης τῆς Α.Β.Υ. τοῦ Διαδόχου διὰ τὸν πόλεμον.

Départ de S.A.R. le Prince Royal
pour la guerre

*Athens railway station: The Crown Prince shortly before his departure for the war front (**)*

A Pallis & Cie - Athènes

On the morning of September 29, 1912, the Crown Prince farewell to the Council of Ministers shortly before his departure to the General Headquarters in Larissa.

THE START OF THE WAR



War 1912: The departure of the armed forces from Piraeus, unk. editor ()*

Approximately 130,000 soldiers were moved to the war front by the means of the time with exemplary order.



*Greco-Turkish War 1912-1913: The inspection of the fleet
by Venizelos and Minister for Naval Affairs Stratos (**)*

Photo. Copyright by "Atlantis", Inc., Station E., New York

Printed in Germany

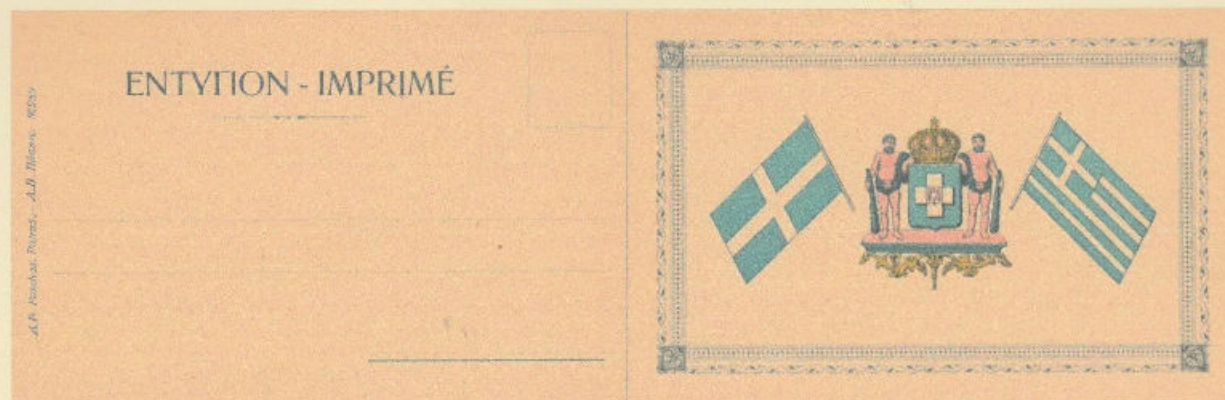
At noon on October 5, the Greek navy, led by Admiral Pavlos Kountouriotis, sailed from the bay of Faliro. The flagship "G. Averoff" was placed in charge.

THE START OF THE WAR



Hellas, folded postcard (**)

In 1912, the Greek mainland territory extended from Tyrnavos and Kalambaka in the east to Arta in the west.



(photocopies)

In the early hours of October 5, 1912, the army of Thessaly under the commander-in-chief, Crown Prince Constantine, advanced towards Elassona. On October 6, midday, the army of Epirus under Lieutenant-General Konstantinos Sapountzakis moved aggressively towards the heights of Gribovo.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN THESSALY



Greek soldiers gathering at the Deleria border military station, in Tyrnavos region of Thessaly. Erroneous description of Macedonia ()*

Ἐκδόσεις Γ. Ν. Ἀλεξάνη—Ἐν Πειραιεὶ ἀρ. 100

The operations begin in the early morning hours of October 5.
Most of the Turkish border outposts are captured without resistance.



Chromolithograph illustration of the Battle of Ellassona and the victory of the Greek army ()*

Edit. D. Sonides, Salonique

Two Greek divisions move in a circular motion against the Turks who are fortified on the heights north of the city.
Artillery fire has preceded. The enemy is forced to retreat.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN THESSALY

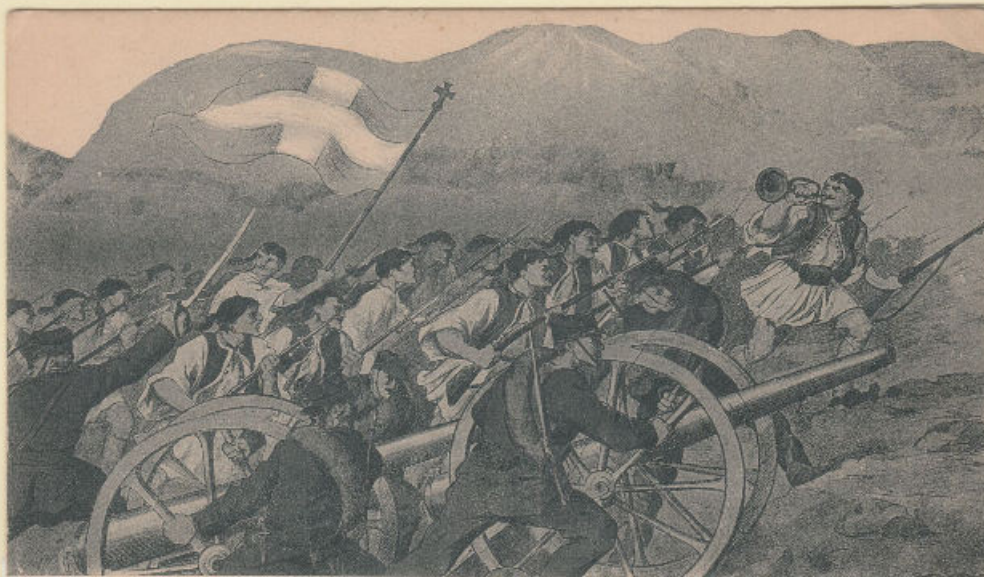


ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΙΑ. - ΜΑΧΗ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΑΣΣΟΝΑΣ

Photographic depiction of the Battle of Elassona.

*Erroneous description of Macedonia, Romaides & Zeitz (RZ monogram bottom left) (**)*

Two great photographers, A. Romaides and F. Zeitz, collaborate. The former, due to his advanced age, assigns the difficult task of photographing the Greek army to the latter, while he himself undertakes the distribution and commercial exploitation of the material. Several of their photographs are published in the press of the times or become postcards.



ἙΛΛΗΝΟ-ΤΟΥΡΚΙΚΟΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ 1912. Ἡ μεγάλη ἐφοδος τῶν Εὐζώνων εἰς Δεσκάτην.

*Greco-Turkish War 1912, The great raid of the Evzones on Deskati (**)*

Ἐκδόσεις Γ. Ν. Ἀλεξάνη—Ἐν Πειραιεὶ ἀρ. 130

The Evzones detachment fights and expels the Turkish garrison that has been fortified on a hill, while later is repelling its counterattack. Deskati is captured by the Greeks on October 8th.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN THESSALY



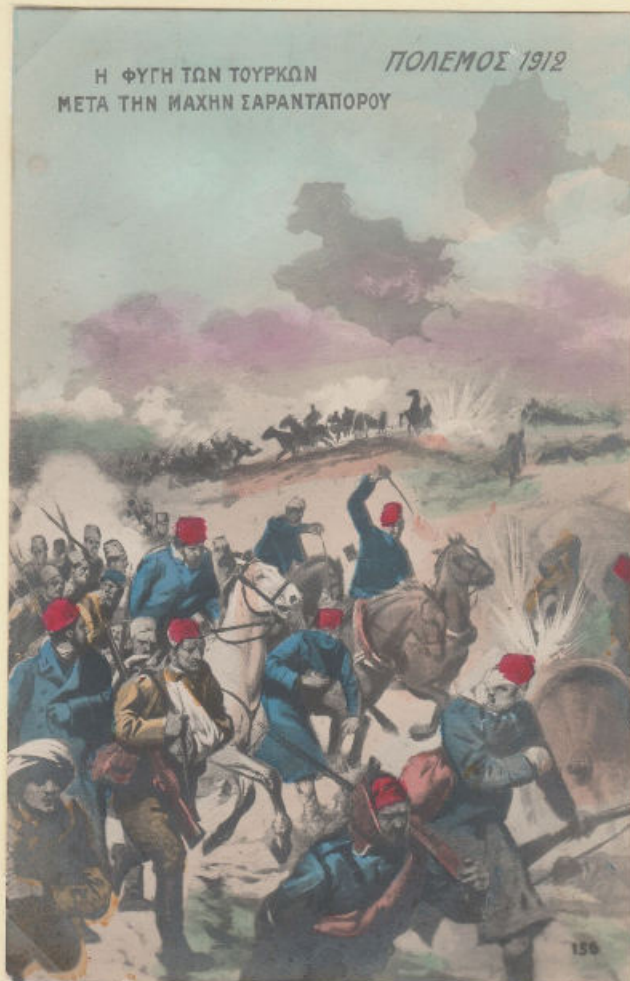
ΕΛΛΗΝΟ - ΤΟΥΡΚΙΚΟΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ 1912. Ἡ μεγάλη μάχη τοῦ Σαρανταπόρου.

Lithograph depiction of the great battle in the straits of Sarantaporos

*October (9/10) - Greco-Turkish War 1912 (**)*

Ἐκδόσις Γ. Ν. Ἀλεξάνη—Ἐν Πειραιεὶ ἀρ. 120

Sarantaporo is a well fortified location whose defense organization has been overseen by German officers. Here the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Greek divisions clash fiercely with the fortified forces of the Turks. The 5th Greek division operates west to Lazarades and faces strong resistance. The 4th division carries out a circular movement in the southern rear of the enemy.



ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ 1912
Ἡ ΦΥΓΗ ΤΩΝ ΤΟΥΡΚΩΝ
ΜΕΤΑ ΤΗΝ ΜΑΧΗΝ ΣΑΡΑΝΤΑΠΟΡΟΥ

During the night, the Turks are informed of the threatening movement of the 4th division and, taking advantage of the darkness and the rain, escape through the straits of Porta. The Battle of Sarantaporos is the first significant victory of the Greek army and opens wide the way to Western Macedonia.

The flight of the Turks after the Battle of Sarantaporos
Unknown editor, numbered 156 front bottom right (**)

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN THESSALY

The casualties of the Greek army in all operations in the wider area of Sarantaporos are 182 dead and 1000 wounded.



ΚΥΡΙΑΚΟΥΛΗΣ ΜΑΥΡΟΜΙΧΑΛΗΣ

Ἀντισυνταγματάρχης τοῦ Πεζικοῦ

Ἡρωϊκῶς πεσὼν ἐν τῇ μάχῃ τῶν Λαζαράδων (Σαρανταπόρου) τῇ 9 Ὀκτωβρίου 1912.

Kyriakoulis Mavromichalis, Lieutenant Colonel of the Infantry and commander of the 22nd Regiment, is depicted on horseback.

*A son of the well-known Mavromichalis family, he fell heroically in the Battle of Lazarades, west of Sarantaporos, on October 9, 1912. Unknown editor (**)*

Due to the disorderly flight of the Turkish army, 22 Turkish cannons and a large amount of ammunition fell to the Greek army.



ΕΛΛΗΝΟΤΟΥΡΚΙΚΟΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ 1912 Τὰ λάφυρα τοῦ Σαρανταπόρου.

*Greco-Turkish War 1912. The spoils of Sarantaporos. Realistic photographic depiction of the dead horse, indicative of the intensity of the battle. (**)*

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA



Lithographic depiction of the occupation of Kozani - Cavalry attack.
An exaggerating artistic synthesis promoting heroism. Unknown editor, numb. 115 (**)

In the early evening hours of October 11, part of the Cavalry brigade entered Kozani without encountering resistance.



1912 - 1913 The occupation of Grevena (o)
Edit. D. Sonides, Salonique

Grevena is officially occupied on the morning of October 15th by the Evzones detachment of Colonel Engineer S. Gennadis without resistance. The Gennadis detachment consists of the 1st and 4th Evzones battalions.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA



ΕΛΛΗΝΟΤΟΥΡΚΙΚΟΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ 1912 Η μάχη τῶν Καϊλαρίων.

Greco-Turkish War 1912. The Battle of Kailaria (Ptolemaida)

(o) Inscribed at the top front in French by the sender and sent from Athens to France, Pau Basses – Pyrenees, 24/12/1914

Αποστολή: Μ. Α. Μυτιληναίου, Μύτιλη

Although there were no Turkish troops in the city, the 5th Division was forced to confront the Turkish inhabitants, who were organized and armed. Resistance quickly collapsed and on the afternoon of October 15, the city was captured.

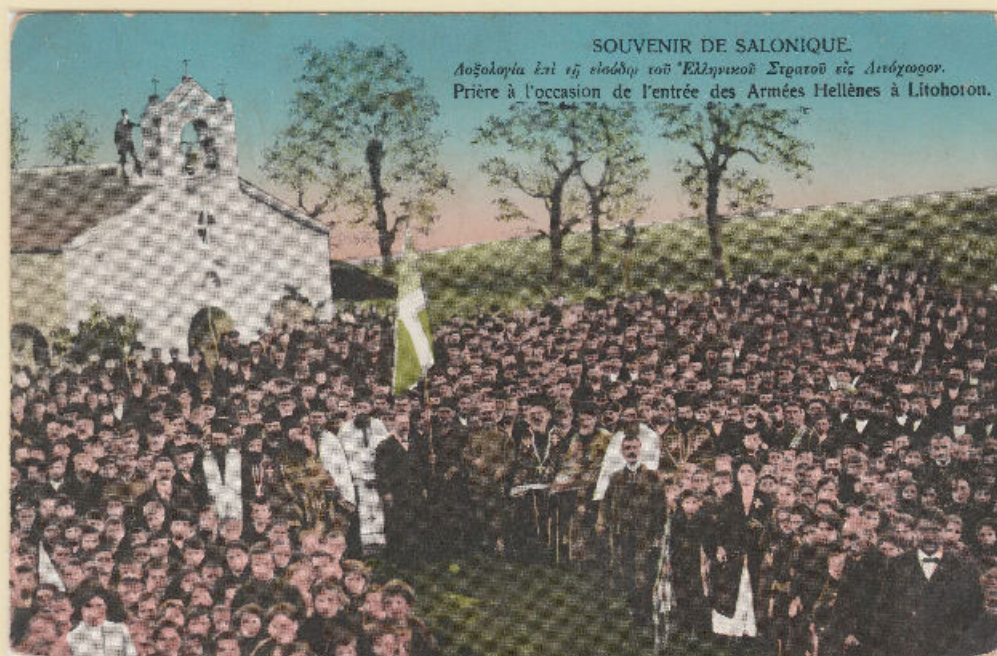


Greco-Turkish War 1912. Turkish prisoners (*)

Εκδόσεις Γ. Ν. Αλεξάνδρου - Έν. Ημερησί. 99

These are the residents of Kailaria who resisted the Greek troops. They do not wear military uniforms since they do not belong to regular Turkish forces. Photograph by A. Romaides and F. Zeitz from which their logo has been removed from the right front edge of the postcard during its publication.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA



Doxology on the occasion of the entry of the Greek army into Litochoro, Unknown editor, (*)
 All the inhabitants of the village are gathered in front of the church of Agios Georgios wearing their festive clothes.
 The Abbot of the monastery of Agios Dionysios and the six priests of the village lead the outdoor doxology.
 The center of the festivity is dominated by the Greek flag.

On October 16, 1912, after the announcement of the entry of the Greeks into Katerini, the residents of Litochoro moved threateningly against the small Turkish garrison that eventually surrendered.



New Greek Territories - Veria, North Macedonia, unknown editor, (*)
 Greek soldiers in the foreground, the city in the background.

The 2nd division of the Greek army enters Veria at noon on October 16, 1912,

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA



*Crown Prince Constantine talks to villagers in Vodena (Slavic name for the city of Edessa), (**)
To his left, Prince George and officers of his staff. Photograph by A. Romaides and F. Zeitz, F.R. & Z. Athen bottom right*

Ἔκδοσις «Ἑλληνικῆς Πινακοθήκης»

The city was liberated on October 18, 1912.



The same as the above cliché in a coloured version, unknown editor, numbered 167 bottom left ()
The description "Crown Prince Constantine talks to villagers in Vodena" has been replaced with
"Crown Prince Constantine talks to Macedonians in Monastir". This is clearly incorrect information.*

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA



Giannitsa, in front of the holy city of the Mohammedans

Unknown editor, numbered 124 bottom left, (o) Inscribed at the top front in French by the sender and sent from Athens to France, Pau Basses – Pyrenees, 12 MAP.13 (*photocopy extract*)

Chromolithographic depiction of the impetuosity of the Greek attack against the Turks who were fortified on a hill.

In the background on the right, the Muslim element of the city is emphasized. The date of the battle is given as October 21st because in the early morning hours of that day the movement of the divisions involved was completed.

Giannitsa is the site of the first Ottoman settlement in Macedonia and the mausoleum of their great military commander Gazi Ahmet Evrenos.



Εὐχρηστικὸν κ' ἔστι δὴν ἀπὸ πάντων δόξαι,
Τὸ χωρὶς οὗτου συνεπείθετο τ' ἀγριώτατον τοῦς μνηστῆρας
Ἐπὶ γὰρ τοὺς ἀγριοχούλους νὰ πύκτουσι μετὰ μνηστῆρας
Ὀλύμπου χερσὶν ἐκείνων, Μεγαλὴν ἔχουσα ἐστίασάν, (παῖδ' αὖτ' ἀνδρείων).

*A comprehensive lithographic interpretation of the Battle of Giannitsa (**)*

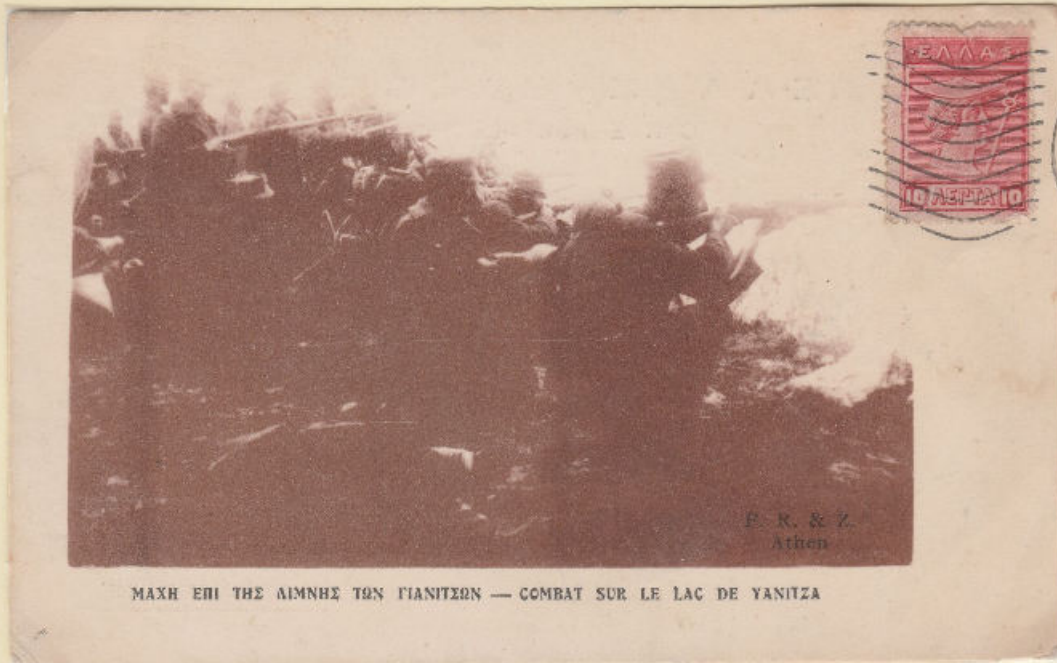
October 20th is commemorated as the date of the substantial victory of the Greeks.

A moving short poem for the fallen Greeks accompanies, printed on very small scale, but very clearly, which is quite an achievement for the printing techniques of the times (*photocopy extract*)

Ἐκδότης Α. Β. ΠΑΣΧΑΣ Ἀθήναι (Πλατεία Ἑθν. Τραπεζῆς).

The victory of Giannitsa on October 19-20, 1912, paves the way for the liberation of Central Macedonia and Thessaloniki. Greek casualties amount to 200 dead and 800 wounded. A large number of Turks are captured.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA



ΜΑΧΗ ΕΠΙ ΤΗΣ ΛΙΜΝΗΣ ΤΩΝ ΓΙΑΝΝΙΤΣΩΝ — COMBAT SUR LE LAC DE YANITZA

Battle of the lake of Giannitsa (o) posted to Belgium.

Greek soldiers in full gear take aim at enemy positions. Photograph by A. Romaides and F. Zeitz.

The issuers' postcards are issued in two different types of their logo. Both types are shown in the photocopies extracts.

Εκδόσεις «Ελληνικής Πανακοθήκης»

These are men of the 3rd division operating north of the lake.



La decimation des Turcs par l'artillerie grec à Plati (Giannitsa)

Ο αποδεκατισμός των Τούρκων υπό το πυροβόλικον μας παρά την γέφυραν Πλάτι (Γιαννίτσα)



Richard Caton Woodville Jr.

atm Woodville

The decimation of the Turks by Greek artillery near the railway bridge and the junction at Platy (Giannitsa)

The scene is a paint work by Richard Caton Woodville Jr., signed "R. C. Woodville" bottom left (Photocopy extract).

Richard Caton Woodville Jr. (1856 – 1927) was an English artist and illustrator, who is best known for being one of the most prolific and effective painters of battle scenes in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Clearly misspelled Greek description due to the card's printing abroad, a common practice of the times with similar results.

(o) Inscribed at the top front in French by the sender and sent from Athens to France, Pau Basses – Pyrenees, 1913.

Εκδόσεις «Ελληνικής Πανακοθήκης»

The battle at Platy, southeast of Giannitsa, was fought on October 20 and ended in the enemy's retreat, which left the southern access to the bridges of the Axios river uncovered.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA



*Destroyed bridge over the Axios River, with its remaining foundations (**)*

Εκδότης Α. Β. ΠΑΣΧΑΣ 'Αθήναι (Πλατεία 'Εθν. Τραπεζης).

The Turks, during their withdrawal, partially or completely destroy the bridges of the river. The crossing of the river by the victors is delayed for almost two days due to the technical difficulties of the crossing, which is finally carried out on 24-25 October 1912.



*Greco-Turkish War 1912
The crossing of the Aliakmon River through a floating bridge (**)*

Εκδότης Γ. Ν. 'Αλεξάνδρ - 'Εκ. Παρισίων αρ. 170

ΕΛΛΗΝΟ - ΤΟΥΡΚΙΚΟΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ 1912. 'Η λεμβόζευξις τοῦ 'Αλιάκμονος ποταμοῦ ἐν Μακεδονίᾳ.



The artillery crossing the Axios River

(o) Armée d'orient Postal Sector 513 20-2 17, addressed to Seine et Oise, France

Both postcards come from the same photograph. Apparently the description of the first postcard (Aliakmon River) is incorrect.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA



Το ιστορικόν Ξάνι εἰς τὸ ὁποῖον ὑπεγράφη
ἡ παράδοσις τῆς ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ

La maison historique où a été signée
la reddition de SALONIQUE



The historic inn where the surrender of Thessaloniki is signed

(ο) ΑΘΗΝΑΙ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ 16 ΟΚΤ. 16 to France, French military censor cachet on back (photocopy extract)

Α. Πάλλης, et Cie, Athènes

This is the Topsin mansion, headquarters of the General Staff. Here, after three days of persistent efforts and marathon negotiations between the Commander-in-Chief Crown Prince and the Turkish Supreme Commander-in-Chief Hasan Taksin Pasha, the surrender of the city is signed. The protocol is signed at 01.30 am on the 27th but dated 26 October 1912.



Κατάληψις τοῦ σιδηροδρομικοῦ σταθμοῦ Θεσσαλονίκης
καὶ ὑποδοχὴ τοῦ θαυροστεφοῦς Ἑλληνικοῦ εἰσατοῦ, τοῦ
ἀνακτησαμένου Θεσσαλονίκης τὴν 27 Ὀκτωβρίου 1912
La prise de la Station de Salonique, et la reception de
l'armée Hellénique qui a occupé la ville le 27 Octobre 1912

**The occupation of the Monastiri railway station (Thessaloniki) by the 7th Greek division
and the reception of the laurel-crowned Greek army. Date 8 am, October 27, 1912 (**)**

Edit. D. Sonides, Salonique

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA



In memory of the glorious liberation of ancient Thessaloniki by the Evzones on October 27, 1912 ()*
Misspelled Greek description.

Edit D. Souides, Salonique

At 14:30, two battalions of Evzones, a cavalry unit and four artillery batteries entered the city. They headed towards the Command Headquarters via Egnatia and occupied the barracks, the Customs house and the Telegraph Office.



Souvenir of Thessaloniki - Entry of the 1st division of the Greek army into Thessaloniki on October 28, 1912 ()*

Editeur : Albert J. Barzilaï.

At 11:00 am, the Crown Prince, dressed in campaign uniform, leads the division.
The marching stops at Agios Minas church, where a doxology is performed.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA



Souvenir of Thessaloniki - The arrival of HM King George I in Thessaloniki on October 29, 1912. The king, on horseback, crosses the Egnatia Highway accompanied by the Crown Prince Constantine, also on horseback, in torrential rain ()*

Editeur : Albert J. Barzilaï.

The King's procession passes by the White Tower and ends at today's 3rd Army Corps. The 1st division, a detachment of Evzones and Cretans of the regular army are lined up along the entire length of the procession route.



Entrance into Thessaloniki of HM King George I of the Hellenes and his entourage on October 29, 1912. March along the Egnatia Highway ()*

Edit D. Sonides, Salonique

From the today's 3rd Army Corps, the king and his entourage board the cars depicted in the postcard to move to the designated "palace", the residence of Cleonas Hatzilazaros.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA

The Greek army also captured 70 cannons, 30 machine guns and a large number of other weapons and ammunition. At the same time, 25,000 Turkish soldiers were captured along with approximately 1,000 officers.



ΤΑ ΟΠΛΑ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΡΑΔΟΒΕΝΤΟΣ ΣΤΡΑΤΟΥ
ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ

*The weapons of the surrendered army of Thessaloniki (**)*

Part of the 75,000 Turkish Mauser-type rifles in Thessaloniki that were handed over to the Greeks according to the supplementary protocol of October 27, 1912 ΕΚΔΟΣΙΣ ΕΛΛΗΝ. ΠΙΝΑΚΟΘΗΚΗΣ ΑΘΗΝΑΙ

Banitsa is a strategically important position where the roads connecting Monastir with Kozani and the Giannitsa plain pass. On October 21, 1912, the 5th Greek Division tried, unsuccessfully, to occupy the area as it encountered heavy Turkish resistance. Eventually Banitsa was taken without a fight, on November 7, 1912.



*Greco-Turkish War 1912-1913. The Battle of Banitsa (Vevi, Florina) (**)*
Chromolithographic interpretation of the battle, unk. editor, n. 189 bottom right.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN MACEDONIA



*Turkish prisoners after the battle at Ostrovo (Arnissa, Western Macedonia) (**)*

ΕΚΔΟΣΙΣ ΕΛΛΗΝ. ΠΙΝΑΚΟΘΗΚΗΣ ΑΘΗΝΑΙ

The Greek army, after a difficult march through Mount Vermion, occupied Ostrovo on November 5, 1912 after a clash with the Turkish army.



*Lithographic interpretation of the battle and capture of Florina by the first cavalry regiment on November 7, 1912 (**)*

Ἐκδότης Α. Β. ΠΑΣΧΑΣ Ἀθήναι (Πλατεία Ἑθν. Τραπεζῆς).

Turkish prisoners are captured and abundant military equipment is confiscated, as well as twelve railway steam locomotives and 300 railway wagons.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA

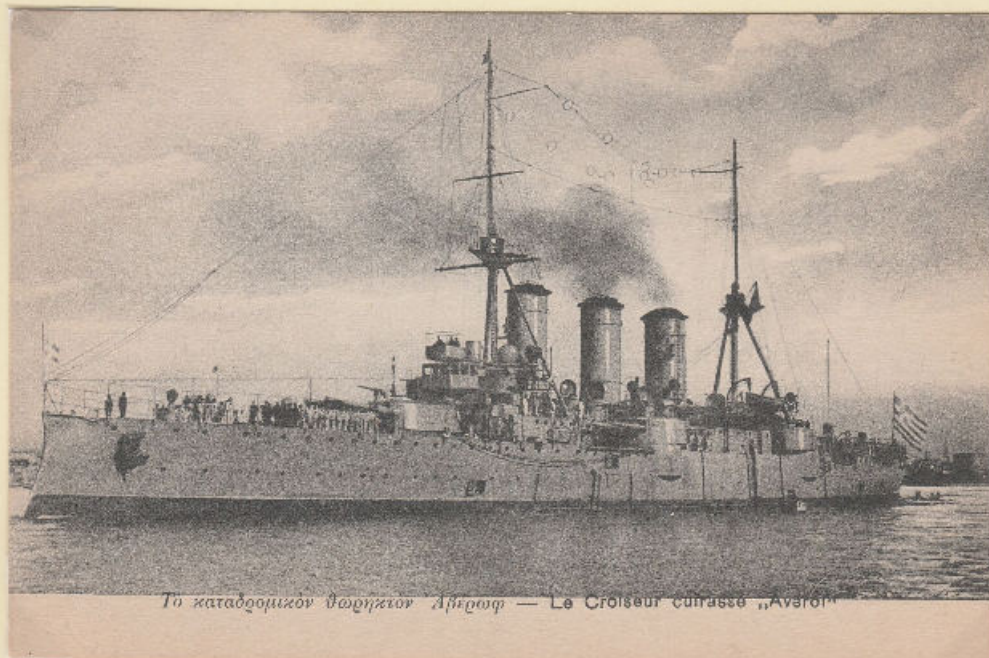


Souvenir of Thessaloniki (Greece) () numbered 272.s bottom right*

The Aegean Squadron of the Greek fleet. At the top left of the card the Greek Coat of Arms. It is flanked on the right by the official flag of the Greek Royal Navy (gold royal crown in the center), and on the left by the national war flag at sea.

Editeur A. B. Paschas - A. B. Editeur - Athènes-Patras

The Greek fleet is the only significant naval force of the Balkan allies. It consists of four battleships, (one newly built and three older), four large destroyers (scouts) newly purchased, two medium destroyers, newly purchased, eight small destroyers, one submarine, five very old torpedo boats and other units. It also includes 90-100 requisitioned merchant ships. It is headed by the Admiral P. Kountouriotis. It lags behind in speed, displacement and power to the Turkish in a ratio of 2:3.



*The armed cruiser battleship "Averof" (**)*

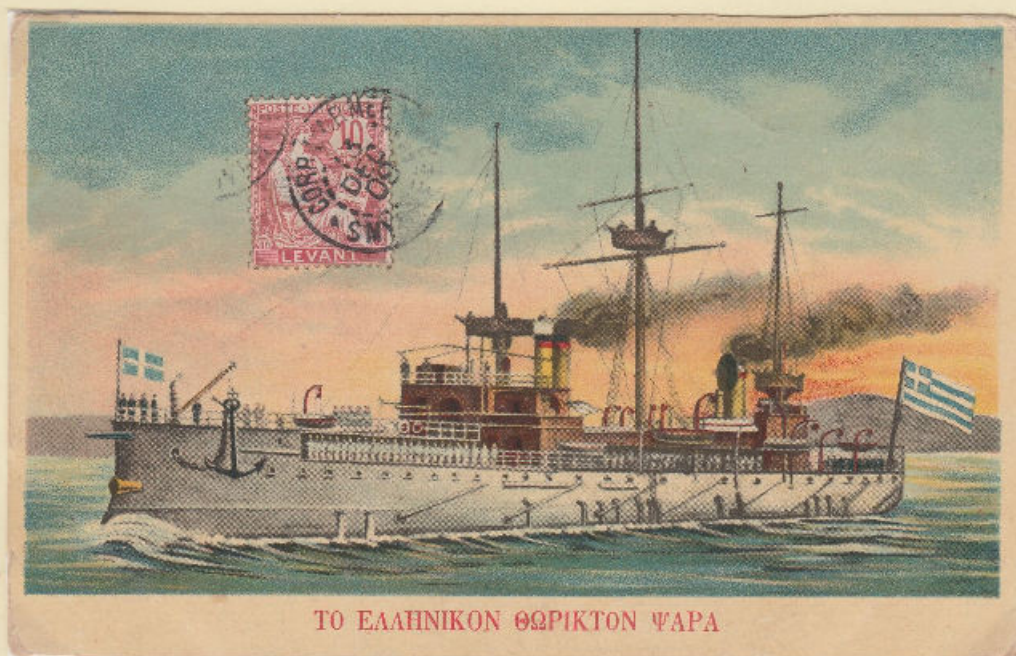
No. 304. Editeur: N. Aiklotis, Candie (Crète)

The best warship between the Greek and Turkish fleets. It stands out for its high speed of 22-23 knots and the volume of fire per side. It has a displacement of 10,200 tons and a crew of approximately 700 men.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



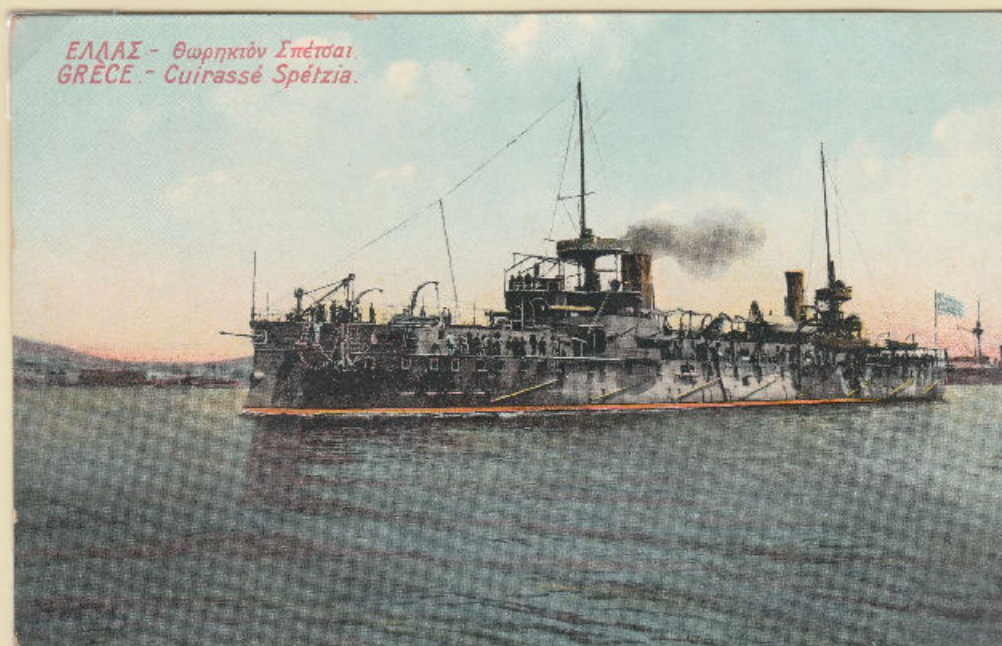
*The crew of the "Averof", during prayer. (**) unk. editor, n. 215 bottom right
The men are lined up at the stern, among them the Admiral P. Kountouriotis can be seen.
To his right is the Governor, Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Staff of the Fleet Commander S. Dousmanis.
To his left stands the Fleet Chaplain Archimandrite D. Daphnos. Photograph by A. Gaziades (not inscribed).*



TO ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΝ ΘΩΡΙΚΤΟΝ ΨΑΡΑ
*Chromolithographic illustration of the Greek battleship "Psara", unk. editor
(o) Posted from the French forces in Smyrna CORR. D' ARMEES*SMYRNEE 13 DEC 09 to Rhone, France*

Of the same type as "Spetses" and "Hydra". It was built by order of the Greek government in 1890, in Havre, with designs and studies by the French chief engineer Dupont. Displacement 4,900 tons. Initial speed 17.5 knots, however during the Balkan Wars it has been reduced to 12-13 due to age. Commander Captain A. Miaoulis. She participates in the seizure of the islands of Samothrace and Lesbos while she takes part in the naval battles of Elli and Lemnos.

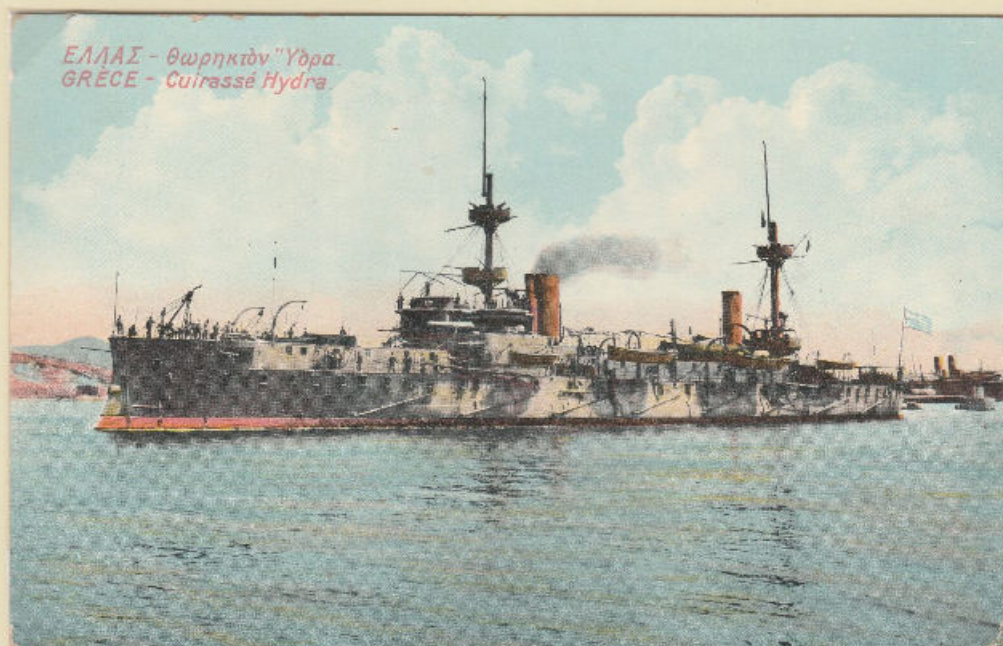
THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



Hellas - The battleship "Spetses", photograph by A. Gaziades (not inscribed) ()*
Artistic addition of the Greek naval flag at the stern of the battleship.

Εκδόσεις Φαραζή και Μιχαλακοπούλου, Αθήναι

Of the same type as "Hydra" and "Psara". Displacement 4,900 tons. Operational speed 12-13 knots.
Commander of the 2nd Battleship Squadron, Captain P. Ginis. Participates in the taking of the islands of Thassos and Lesbos.
Also takes part in the naval battles of Elli and Lemnos.



Hellas - The battleship "Hydra", photograph by A. Gaziades (not inscribed) ()*
Artistic addition of the Greek naval flag at the stern of the battleship.

Εκδόσεις Φαραζή και Μιχαλακοπούλου, Αθήναι

Of the same type as "Spetses" and "Psara". Displacement 4,900 tons. Operational speed 12-13 knots due to age.
The captain was the Reserve Lieutenant P. Kontostavlos. She participated in the capture of the island of Lesbos.
She also took part in the naval battles of Elli and Lemnos.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



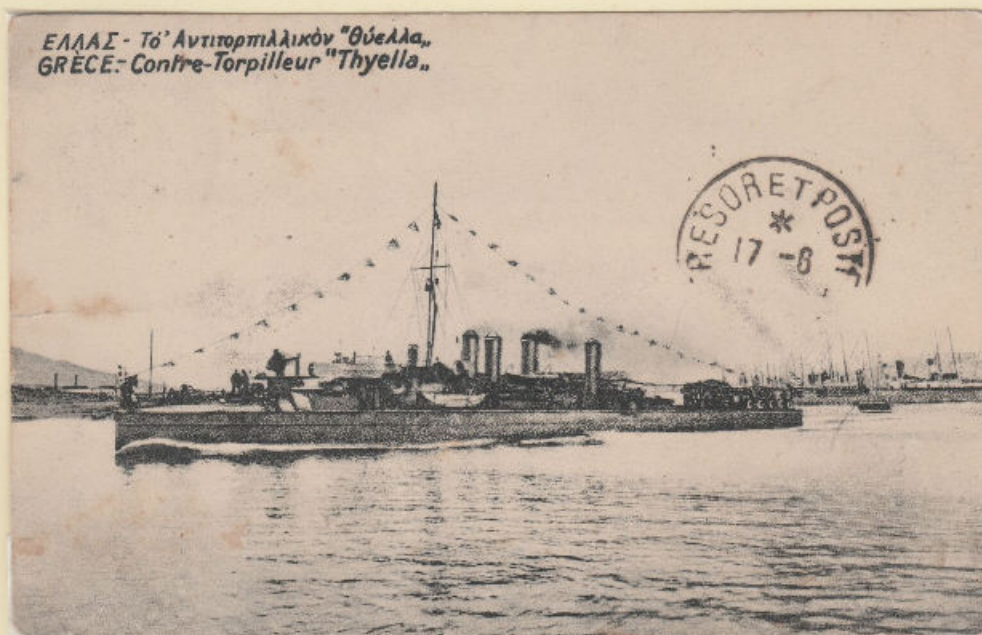
*Our new destroyer "Panther", built at the Cammell, Laird & Co Ltd. shipyards, England (**)*

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΤΥΠΟΓΡΑΦΙΑ

ΠΟΛΙΤΕΥΣΗ

ART PUBLISHERS TO THEIR MAJESTIES THE KING & QUEEN

This is one of the "beasts" of the Greek war navy. The other three were the "Aetos", the "Ierax", and the "Leon". The four ships were originally ordered from Argentina and were purchased ready to launch when the Balkan War seemed inevitable. On September 19, 1912, they raised the Greek flag although they still had foreign crews. They were initially called "detection ships" and not "destroyer ships" as they did not bear torpedoes. The torpedoes were acquired after the Balkan Wars. Its displacement is 1,033 tons. Speed 31 knots. The "Panther", former Argentine "Santiago", is commanded by the Reserve Lieutenant Commander A. Miaoulis. She participates in the capture of Daphne and Karyes on Mount Athos.



Hellas - The destroyer "Thyella"

(o) Armée d'orient 17-6 16, addressed to Pontarlier, France

Edit D. Sonides, Salonique

One of four similar type destroyers built by order of the Greek government at the Yarrow shipyards in England during the period 1905-1907. Of the same type were the "Sfendoni", "Longhi" and "Nafkratousa". Displacement 350 tons, speed 30 knots. Commanded by the Lieut. Commander A. Vlachopoulos. It participates in the capture of Daphne and Karyes and the Ikaria island.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA

The uniforms of the Hellenic Royal Navy were eventually shaped in 1887. They were influenced by the French style, a fact that was due to the French Admiral Lauren Joseph Lejeune. These uniforms remained until 1915 when the English-style uniforms, that are still in use today, were established. During the Balkan Wars, the sailors of the units wore the same equipment as the Infantry soldiers.



*Untitled, (**) Chromolithographic illustration of the winter dark blue uniform of a Greek sailor of the landing unit with the Greek naval flag in the background. The cap with a black silk ribbon and the woolen fabric tunic can be seen.*

The white blue collar sits on the tunic while the jumper, bearing horizontal stripes, is inside the tunic. The long and wide trousers are fastened at the bottom by the gaiters.

GEORGES FEXIS-ÉDITEUR ATHÈNES (GRECE) N° 274



Lithographic depiction of the occupation of Lemnos by naval men raising the Greek flag, ()*
Edit D. Sonides, Salonique

On October 8, the island of Lemnos is taken without a fight by two companies of Kefalonians of the 20th Infantry Regiment under Captain Kontaratos. British approval has been previously secured.

The natural and safe harbour of Moudros is transformed, from scratch, into an advanced naval base thanks to the hard work of the crews.

From there, the Greek fleet begins its liberating expeditions.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



Ο ΒΟΥΤΣΗΣ ΚΑΝΟΝΙΖΩΝ ΤΑΣ ΤΟΡΠΙΛΛΑΣ ΤΟΥ

RÉGLAGE DES TORPILLES PAR VOTSIS

Votsis arranges his torpedoes, () 1 lepton stamp affixed top left and cancelled to order*



The Greek Aegean Fleet has five torpedo boats. These are the "11", the "12", the "14", the "15" and the "16". They are all very old. They were built in 1884-1885 at the Vulcan shipyards in Stettin, Germany (today's Szczecin, Poland). They underwent a conversion during which a second boiler and funnel were added in a factory in Piraeus, Greece. The conversion increased their speed from 18 to 25 knots. Displacement 85 tons.



*Lieutenant Commander N. Votsis – Destroyer of the Turkish battleship Fethi Bulent in Thessaloniki (**)* Chromolithographic illustration, unk. editor, numbered 136 bottom right

On the right side of the card is depicted the torpedo boat "11" with the Greek flag. It is incorrectly depicted as having only one funnel, as after the 1905 conversion it had two. In the center the lighthouse of the Karabournos fortress is depicted with its huge searchlight and the large Turkish flag. The photograph of N. Votsis on the left.

N. Votsis was born in 1877 in Hydra. He was the nephew of Rear Admiral P. Kountouriotis and captain of a torpedo boat. He sailed into the port of Turkish-occupied Thessaloniki, escaping the attention of the Turkish coastal gunners.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



*The destruction of a Turkish battleship by a Greek torpedo boat - Thessaloniki, October 18, 1912
Chromolithographic illustration of the sinking of the Fethi Bulent and the panic that prevails
(**) unk. editor, numbered 135 bottom right*

The torpedo boat "11" fires three torpedoes. The first two find their target while the third hits the harbor breakwater.
The direction is deliberately such that the two foreign warships which are nearby not to be hit. The Fethi Bulent was built in England in 1872 and repaired in 1907. It sinks completely and 13 sailors and the ship's Imam lose their lives.



N. Votsis - The Destroyer 1912 - K. Kanaris, The fire-raiser 1821 ()
Chromolithographic depiction of the laurel-crowned heroes. The burning of the Turkish flagship is depicted on the right, a theme taken from the well-known painting by Nikephoros Lytras.*

Editeur Jean Boucas - Oaire.

Konstantinos Kanaris, a legend of the Greek Revolution of 1821, blew up the flagship of the Turkish fleet on the night of June 6 to 7, 1822, avenging the massacre of Chios.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



*Greek occupation of Mytilene, November 8, 1912 (**)*
D.B.D. editor, inscribed bottom left

Admiral Kountouriotis delivers an ultimatum to the Ottoman authorities demanding the immediate surrender of the city. A meeting is held with the participation of the authorities and the notables, Greeks and Muslims, of the city. At this meeting, the surrender of the administration of the city is agreed upon in combination with the unhindered withdrawal of the Ottoman armed forces of 1,500-2,000 men who were driven to the interior of the island. At 12.30 pm, a naval detachment of 250 men and an infantry battalion with 15 officers and 1,019 men land at the site of today's Customs House. Dozens of Greek flags wave in Christian homes and public buildings. A doxology is held in the metropolitan church of Saint Athanasius, Metropolitan Cyril of Mytilene officiating.

With the arrival of the Greek fleet, the Greeks of the city pour into the streets, squares, the waterfront, the port, and the beaches, celebrating furiously.

One of the first measures of the Greek administration is the issue of a commemorative series of stamps. The issue is carried out by surcharging the confiscated Ottoman stamps with the phrase "Greek Occupation of Mytilene".

The word "Occupation" marks the temporary nature of the island's incorporation into Greece.

The official incorporation takes place 11 years later, in 1923, with the Treaty of Lausanne.



Souvenir of Mytilene - The celebration of the liberation, Mytilene November 8, 1912.

The first Greek landing.

The doxology.

The official surrender of the authorities.

(*) Trithematic, unk. editor, numbered 164 bottom right

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



*Souvenir of Mytilene - The Greek fleet in Mytilene on the first day of the occupation,
with residents watching its arrival*

(*), unk. editor, numbered 163 backside bottom left

A section of the Greek fleet led by the flagship "Averof" and three battleships arrive in Mytilene at 7 am on November 8. The ship's band plays patriotic songs that excite the people that observe the spectacle in amazement.



Occupation of Mytilene - The captured Turkish soldiers () Photocard, unk.editor*

Gradually, the Greek army is reinforced by an additional 1,500 men and many local volunteers. Among them the famous Lesbian Phalanx, consisting of 210 Lesbian immigrants. The Turkish soldiers remain fortified in the camp of Klapados, in the north-western part of the island. During the final attack of the Greeks, the bombardment of the camp is supplemented by precision shots from the Greek navy. The Turks surrender on December 8 and many of them are taken prisoners and sent to Piraeus.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



Ο ΕΝ ΑΪΒΑΛΗ ΤΟΡΠΙΛΗΣΑΣ ΤΟΥΡΚΙΚΟΝ
ΠΟΛΕΜΙΚΟΝ, ΑΞΙΩΜΑΤΙΚΟΣ ΑΡΓΥΡΟΠΟΥΛΟΣ

*Officer Argyropoulos, destroyer
of the Turkish warship in Ayvalik (**)*

Εκδότης Α. Β. ΠΑΣΧΑΣ 'Αθήναι (Πλατεία 'Εθν. Τραπεζης).

He was born in Archanes, Heraklion, Crete, in 1894.
His godfather being Eleftherios Venizelos,
Prime Minister of Greece.

As a third-year naval cadet, he led and succeeded
in his efforts to allow cadets to participate in the Balkan Wars.

As a naval officer, he was killed
in Chios in a clash with the Turkish army on
November 17, 1912.

He was the first student of the Naval Cadet School
to fall on the battlefield.

Every year, a memorial service,
a speech, a wreath-laying ceremony
and a sailing race, "the Pastrikakeia",
are held at the School in his honor.

His bust adorns the School's garden.

On the night of November 9, Lieutenant Commander
P. Argyropoulos, commander of the torpedo boat "14",
without obtaining relevant order, carries out
an extremely daring venture.

He sails into the bay of Kydonia,
(Ayvalik - Asia Minor - Turkey),
torpedoes and sinks the brand new and war-ready
Turkish gunboat Trebzon.

Her crew has managed to abandon her
while her captain refuses to surrender
and sinks with her, locked in his cabin.



Ἰωάννης Παστρικάκης. — Jean Pastricakis.

*Ioannis Pastrikakis (**)*

No. 301. Editeur: N. Alkisiotis, Candie (Crète)

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



*The occupation of Chios island - Interpretation of the landing of the Greeks on November 11, 1912 (**)*

Εκδότης Α. Β. ΠΑΣΧΑΣ 'Αθήναι (Πλατεία 'Εθν. Τραπεζης).

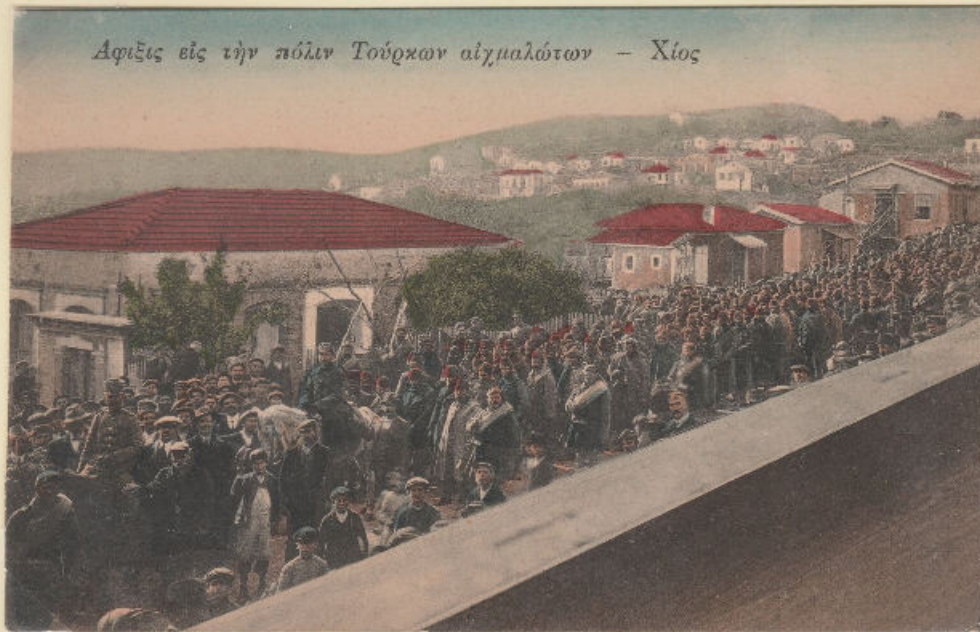
The Turkish commander refuses to surrender. The men of the landing party with rowing boats operate at the Kontari position, 4 km. south of the city of Chios. Receiving heavy fire from the land, they demonstrate admirable composure and heroism. The gunboats of the requisitioned ships assist in this effort and finally the enemy resistance is broken.



*Souvenir of Chios - Chios 1912, pursuit of the Turkish army by a Greek detachment
(**) unk. editor, numbered 165 bottom left*

After the victorious landing of the Greeks, the city of Chios was evacuated by the Turkish army and is occupied on November 12, 1912. The Ottoman garrison withdrew to a hill near the city from where it was expelled by the Greek forces by the evening of the same day. Eventually, the Turkish forces fortified themselves in more protected mountainous positions in the interior of the island.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



Chios - Arrival of Turkish prisoners in the city, () unk. editor*

The Turkish forces resisted vigorously until December 20, 1912. Then a coordinated attack was launched by the reinforced Greek forces, numbering about 5,000 men. The surrounded Ottomans surrendered (37 officers and 1,800 soldiers). The liberation of Chios cost the Greeks 36 dead and 166 wounded.



*Chios - Greek army parade in Constantine Square, (**) unk. editor*

The Greek army parades victorious and triumphant in the central square of Chios after the completion of the operations, which has been renamed "Constantine Square" in honor of the Crown Prince Constantine - Commander-in-Chief of the Greeks. Today, the site houses the monument to the heroes of the liberation of the island.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



Ο "ΑΒΕΡΟΦ", ΒΑΛΛΩΝ ΚΑΤΑ ΤΗΝ ΝΑΥΜΑΧΙΑΝ

L'ACTION DE L'AVEROF PENDANT LE COMBAT NAVAL

*The "Averof" firing during the naval battle (**)*

Photo by A. Gaziades, (inscribed bottom right), one of the most important photographers of Piraeus, Greece.

Gaziades follows the ships of the Greek fleet and captures the war operations through his lens.

His photos are published in the French magazine "Illustration".

Εκδόσεις: Γ. ΚΑΡΑΜΠΕΛΑΣ, Στάδων 12, Αθήναι.
G. CARABELAS, ATHÈNES

This is a misleading description. In reality, the flagship pays homage "by cannon fire" to the Bulgarian Brigadier General who visits her while she is anchored at Dedeagats (Alexandroupoli) on 15-16 November 1912. This was preceded by the transfer of a Bulgarian army brigade there from Thessaloniki with the assistance of requisitioned Greek ships.

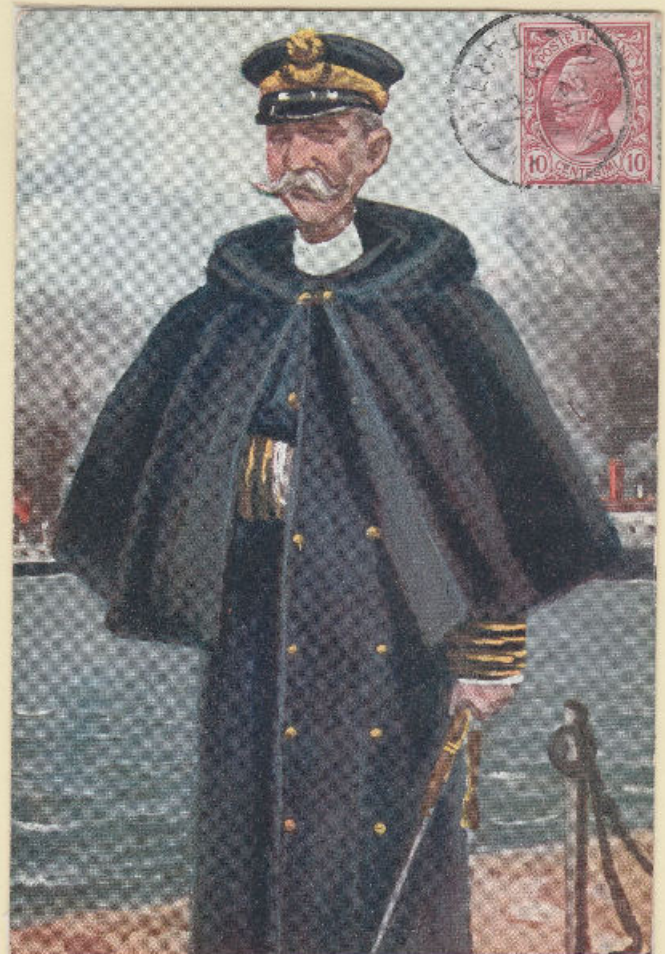


Greco-Turkish War 1912-1913 -The "Averof" pursues the Turkish flagship at full speed ()*, unk. editor, numb. 214 bot. right. Extremely realistic depiction with the clouds and the smoke of the ships creating a unique ensemble that highlights the intensity of the scene. The addition of flags on the bows is essential, denoting the identity of each ship.

On the morning of December 3, 1912, near the Dardanelles Straits, the Greek and Turkish fleets clashed in the famous naval battle of Elli. The Turks defeated quickly retreated.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA

Admiral Kountouriotis performs a daring maneuver and, taking advantage of the speed of the "Averof", detaches himself from the Greek squadron and attacks the Turkish flagship. The opposing admiral is surprised and retreats in disorder. This initially leads to the splitting and then to the flight of the entire Turkish fleet.



Ou est la Flotte Turque? - Je l'attends toujours!...
Ο τουρκικός στόλος? Παντοτε τον περιμενω!

"Where is the Turkish fleet? I'm always waiting for it ! "

Chromolithographic illustration of P. Kountouriotis,
(o) posted from Rome 21 3 1913 to France.

 Traoldi & C. - Milano
Reproduction Interdite



Ναυμαχία της 5 'Ιανουαρίου 1913

Combat naval du 5 Janvier 1913

This naval battle completes the work of the naval battle of Ellis. It ensures Greece's dominance in the Aegean and the Eastern Mediterranean with decisive consequences for the outcome of the Balkan Wars. The accuracy of the Greek fire, in this conflict off the island of Lemnos, determines the final result. Three Turkish battleships suffer serious damage, retreat into the straits and will never attempt again until the end of the wars.

Naval battle of January 5, 1913. Chromolithograph depiction of the naval battle of Lemnos. The waving Greek flags dominate. Signed K.K. bottom left (**) **A. Pallis & Cie - Athènes**

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA



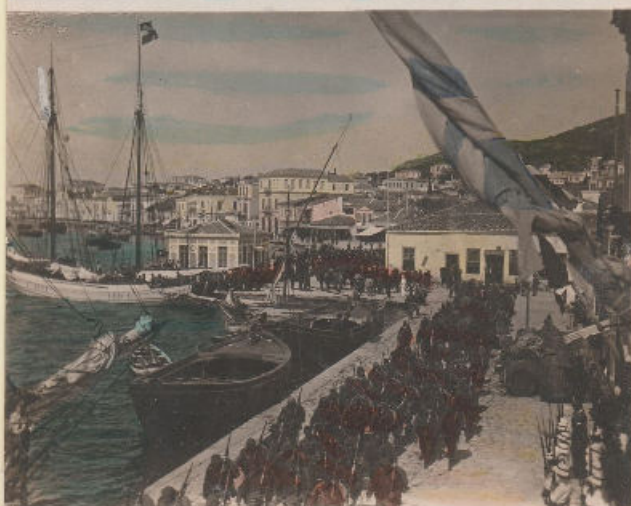
*Les troupes Turques de Samos sont
appelées à évacuer l'île après la Révolution.
Septembre 1912.
Embarquement de l'infanterie à bord des
voiliers Samiens.*

*The Turkish troops of Samos are called upon to evacuate
the island after the rebellion of September 1912.
Embarkation of the infantry on the Samian sailing ships.
(**) unknown editor, French postcard described in French.*

After the rebellion of 1912, a local national assembly
was formed under the presidency of Soufoulis,
which proclaimed the union of Samos with Greece
in November 1912.

However, the Greek government initially did not accept it,
trying to avoid diplomatic complications.

It is incorrectly stated that the expulsion
of the Turkish army took place in November 1912.
The correct date is September 23, 1912.



ΕΠΙΘΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΣ ΣΑΜΟΥ **Νοέμβριος 1912**
Ῥωξελαιοῦς Τούρκικοῦ Ἐπιστάτου

302

*Samos rebellion - November 1912, expulsion of the Turkish army
(**) bithematic postcard, unk. editor, numbered 302 bottom right*

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN SEA

On November 11, Sunday, at the church of Saint Spyridon, at 2 p.m., Th. Sofoulis, accompanied by the island's authorities (except for the Hegemon who had been notified and had abandoned his residence), proclaimed the union with emotion.



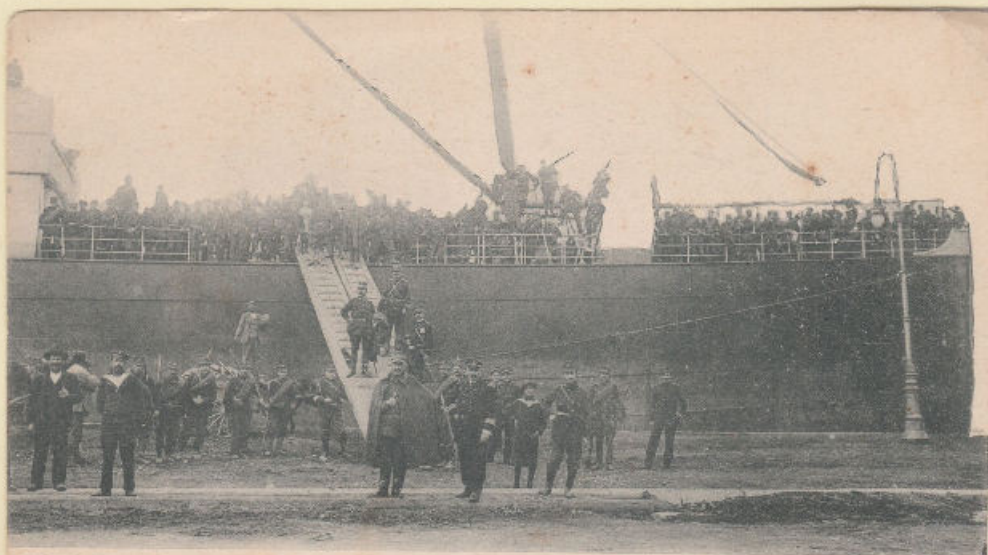
*Souvenir of Samos, November 1912 - Proclamation of the Union with Greece in a festive atmosphere (**) unk. editor, numbered 303a bottom right.*

The development of the Balkan Wars, especially after the interruption of peace talks in London, leads the Greek government to change its attitude. On March 2, 1913, Saturday, the battleship "Spetsai" and the requisitioned "Thessaly" are dispatched with two army companies to occupy the island. The destroyers "Niki" and "Velos" patrol the open sea. The official union of Samos with Greece will take place a few years later, in 1923, with the Treaty of Lausanne.



Souvenir of Samos, November 1912 - Proclamation of the Union with Greece. In the foreground, a crowd of people in front of the Hegemony building. Greek flags are waving proudly. () unk. editor, numbered 303 bottom right.*

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS



ΠΕΙΡΑΙΕΥΣ. Ἐπιβίβσεις Ἑλληνικοῦ στρατοῦ διὰ τὴν Ἠπειρὸν.

*Piraeus - Embarkation of Greek army for Epirus (**)*

Ἔκδοσις 1. Ν. Αλεξιάκη Ἐν Πειραιεὶ ἀρ. 62

The soldiers are transported by requisitioned cargo ships to the port of Astakos in Aitolioakarnania. Their movement further north continues with multi-day, arduous marches.



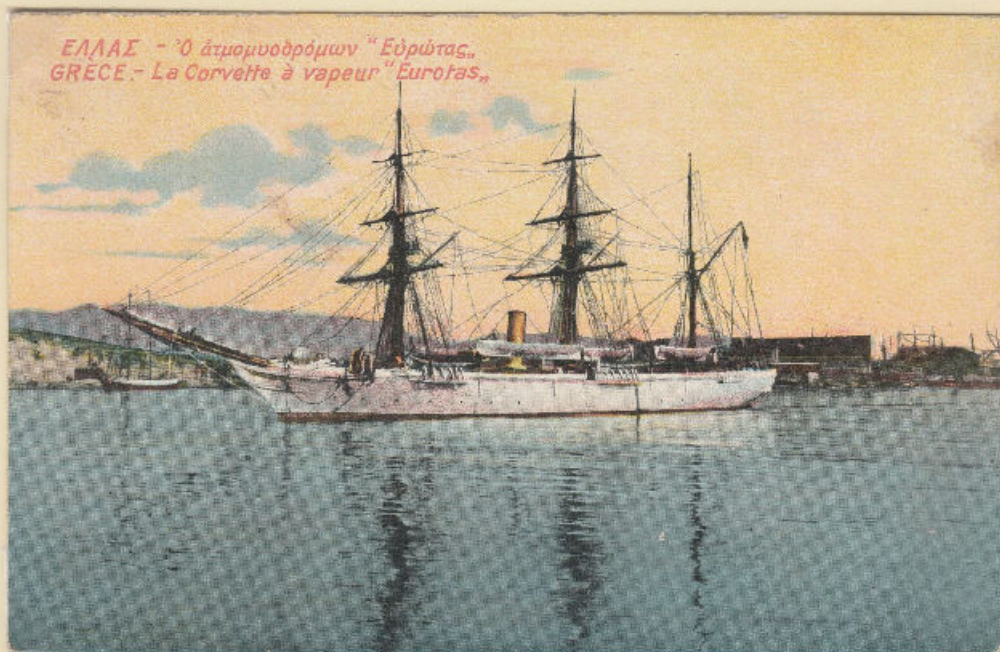
Ο ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΣΤΡΑΤΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΗΠΕΙΡΟΥ — L'ARMÉE GREC A L'ÉPIRE

The Greek army of Epirus ()*
 Photograph by A. Romaides and F. Zeitz.

Ἔκδοσις «Ἑλληνικῆς Πινακοθήκης»

The Epirus Army is initially formed by a force of 10,500 men supported by a mountain and a plain artillery squadron. Gradually, many volunteer corps of Cretans, Epirotes, and Greeks of the diaspora will be integrated. Lieutenant General K. Sapountzakis is placed as the head. The orientation of the Epirus Army is initially defensive, securing the rear of the Macedonian Front.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS



*The steamship "Eurotas" (**)*

Chromolithographic depiction of the ship with a displacement of 400 tons and a speed of 10 knots.

87

Ἐκδόσεις Φαρμακῆ καὶ Μιχαλοπούλου, Ἀθήναι.

The Ionian Naval Squadron is composed of 2 gunboats, 3 small gunboats and 4 steam-powered cruisers named after four rivers of Greece. It is commanded by Captain I. Diamianos. The "Evrotas" participates in the landings at Himara and Agious Saranda while patrolling the Ionian coast from Preveza to Vlorë (Avlonas) and Durrës (Dyrrhachion).



The Battle of Gribovo ()*

Chromolithographic extremely vivid depiction of the intensity of the conflict.

Editour Dracos Papadometrius — Athènes

On October 6, 1912, the Epirus army crossed the Turkish border by crossing the Arta bridge. After a raid, it occupied the heights of Gribovo, west of the Arachthos River.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS



The Louros River in Epirus and Greek soldiers transporting fodder etc. to Philippiada
(c) XAAKIS 10 IOYA. 13 to Anvers, Belgium.

A. Pallis & Cie - Athènes

The Louros River in the Philippiada area receives a secondary tributary. It discharges itself into the Amvrakikos Bay.

It proves to be particularly useful for the needs of the army and the inhabitants until the occupation of Preveza. The Turks, not having sufficient information about the strength of the Greek army, evacuated the area of Philippiada. The city was liberated on the morning of October 12, 1912.



Wounded soldiers of the battles of Epirus at Philippiada
 Photograph by A. Romaides and F. Zeitz, (o) ΠΡΕΒΕΖΑ 4 ΦΕΒ. 1913 to Paris, France.

³Εκδοσις «Ἑλληνικῆς Πινακοθήκης»

From November 25, the headquarters of the Epirus Army was transferred to Philippiada to direct the operations from close quarters. In parallel, exemplary health services were organized there, such as military hospitals, hospitals of the Greek Red Cross or foreign Red Crosses under the supervision of the women of the Royal Family.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS



Nikopolis, vanguard skirmish, chromolithographic illustration ()*
Unknown editor, numbered 144 bottom left

Early in the morning of October 20, the Greek attack is launched with the help of two artillery batteries.
The Turks use the ancient ditches of Nikopolis as trenches and stubbornly resist until noon.
Finally, they retreat at noon of the same day in front of the impetuous attack of the Greek army.
The Cretan volunteers led by K. Manos are the first to occupy the heights and raise the Greek flag.



Greek artillery entering the fortress of Preveza after its seizure.
In the foreground is the fortress of Agios Georgios.
(o) ΙΩΑΝΝΙΝΑ 15 ΑΠΡ. 13 to ΑΘΗΝΑΙ ΚΕΝΤΡΙΚΟΝ 18 ΑΠΡ. 13

A. Pallis & Cie - Athènes



"New Territories" pmk.
ΙΩΑΝΝΙΝΑ 15 ΑΠΡ. 13,
5 lepta overprinted
"ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΙΟΙΚΗΣΙΣ"
i.e. "Hellenic Administration",
in order to cover the postal needs
of the territories under liberation.

The Turkish commander of the city, with the intervention of the consuls of the Great Powers, is persuaded and decides to surrender Preveza along with its 800-man garrison. The prisoners are transported by boat to Lefkada. With the liberation of this important port, sea communications are secured and at the same time the role of the Army of Epirus changes from defensive to an offensive one with the ultimate goal of capturing Ioannina.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS

The Ottoman Governor of Ioannina, Esat Pasha, launches an attack with five battalions against two battalions of Evzones. His focus is the fortified position of "Pente Pigadia", in the middle of the Ioannina - Arta route. Skirmishes follow which last seven days, (24-30 October). Eventually, the Turks retreat and the Greeks consolidate in Epirus.



*Greco-Turkish War 1912 - Skirmish at "Pente Pigadia" (**)*
Chromolithographic, unkn. editor, numb. 119 bottom right



*Cretan Warriors in Himara 1912 (**)*

Volunteer corps of Epirus and 200 Cretans led by Gendarmerie Colonel and Macedonian fighter Spyros Spiromilios land at Himara.

After a short fight they capture the Turkish garrison and liberate the city and its area.

They remain there, almost undisturbed, until the end of the operations.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS



*Untitled, Lithographic depiction of the Garibaldi corps with the Greek flag waving in the foreground (**)*

The Crown Prince Constantine top right
Printed in Germany

Count A. Romas, Member of Parliament for Zakynthos and former President of the Greek Parliament, took part in the Balkan Wars as leader of the «Red Tunics». In collaboration with the leader of the Italian Garibaldi, Ricciotti Garibaldi, son of the legendary Giuseppe Garibaldi, conquered the heights of Drisco in Ioannina after a fierce battle with the Turks on November 26, 1912. The next day, however, the Turks, reinforced, counterattacked and due to their numerical superiority, forced the Garibaldi to retreat after three days of fighting. The losses for the Greeks are heavy. Among them is the great Greek poet and member of parliament for Corfu, Lorentzos Mavilis, who was mortally wounded.

The forces takes its name from the Italian patriot and military man Giuseppe Garibaldi. The Garibaldi uniform, from officer to soldier, was designated to consist of a red tunic, hence the name "Red Tunics", accompanied khaki trousers with blue lining. The officers' cap was red and the soldiers' was khaki. The men's armament consisted of Gras rifles along with their accessories due to the lack of sufficient Mannlicher rifles at that time.



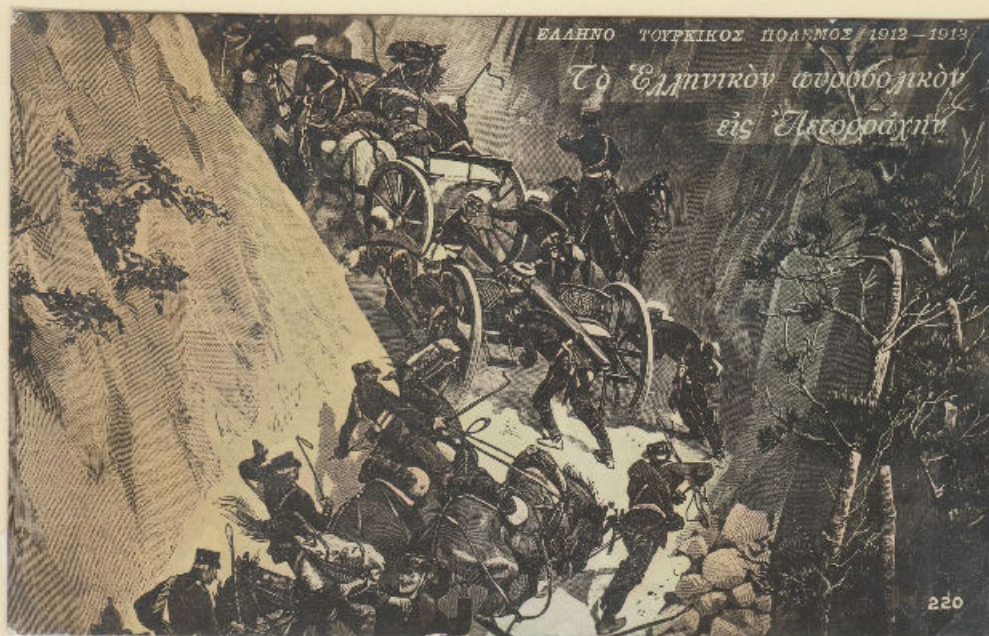
ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ Σ. ΡΩΜΑΣ

Ἀρχηγὸς τῶν ἐν Ἑλλάδι Γαριβαλδιστῶν

*Μνημὲν τοῦ Δρίσκου
1912 - 1913*

Alexander S. Romas - Leader of the Garibaldi forces in Greece (**)
Unknown editor

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS



Greco-Turkish War 1912 – 1913 – The Greek artillery at Aetorrachi ()*
Chromolithographic illustration, unknown editor, numbered 220 front bottom right

In the Aetorrachi mountain range, the Turks have created an advanced defense line that is part of the fortifications of Ioannina. Two battalions of Evzones and an artillery battery, after a 30-hour battle, force them to retreat. Despite the fierce efforts of the Turks in the following days, the Greeks will maintain control. The battles last from 1 to 9 December 1912.



*The battle of Manoliassa (**)*
Photograph by A. Romaides and F. Zeitz

Éditeur: P. Caloulas, Syra (Grèce)

The Manoliassa hill is a defensive location of Ioannina in front of the Bizani fortress. It was initially occupied by the 2nd Division with the assistance of Cretan volunteers on December 1, 1912. Terrible and bloody battles between the Greeks and the Ottomans for the control of the hill will follow, lasting until the final capture of Ioannina in February 1913.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS

This is actually the hill of Prophet Elias, an advanced position of the fortifications of Manoliassa opposite the fort of Bizani. The hill changes hands many times as the two opponents passionately claim it. The volunteer mayor of Limassol, Ch. Sozos, is also killed here. Finally, the Greek forces, contrary to what the propaganda card states, withdraw so as not to be decimated after ten days of fighting.



December 10, 1912 - Stubborn battle on the summit of Bizani (**)
A close-quarters bayonet battle between Greeks and Ottomans.
Unknown editor, numbered 171 front bottom right



Greco-Turkish War 1912 – 1913 – The battle of Korytsa (*)

Chromolithographic illustration

Edit D. Sonides, Salonique

Early in the morning of December 7, 1912, a Greek detachment of the 3rd Division liberated the city of Korytsa (Korçë). Extensive mopping up operations by the victors in Western Macedonia had preceded.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS



Τὰ ὀχυρώματα τοῦ Μπιζανίου.

Les remparts de Bizani.

The fortifications of Bizani

(o) ΑΘΗΝΑΙ ΚΕΝΤΡΙΚΟΝ 14 ΑΠΡ. 17 to Paris

A. Pallis & Cie - Athènes

The hill at Bizani, about 15km south of Ioannina, is a very strong point of defense for the Turkish defenders of the city. On this rocky site, during the years 1909-1912, five important circular battle forts, made of reinforced concrete, with extensive interconnection, invisible to the enemy, were built. The initiator of these fortification works is the Prussian Field Marshal Von Der Goltz. Former Turkish soldiers of the New Turk movement are used as workers.

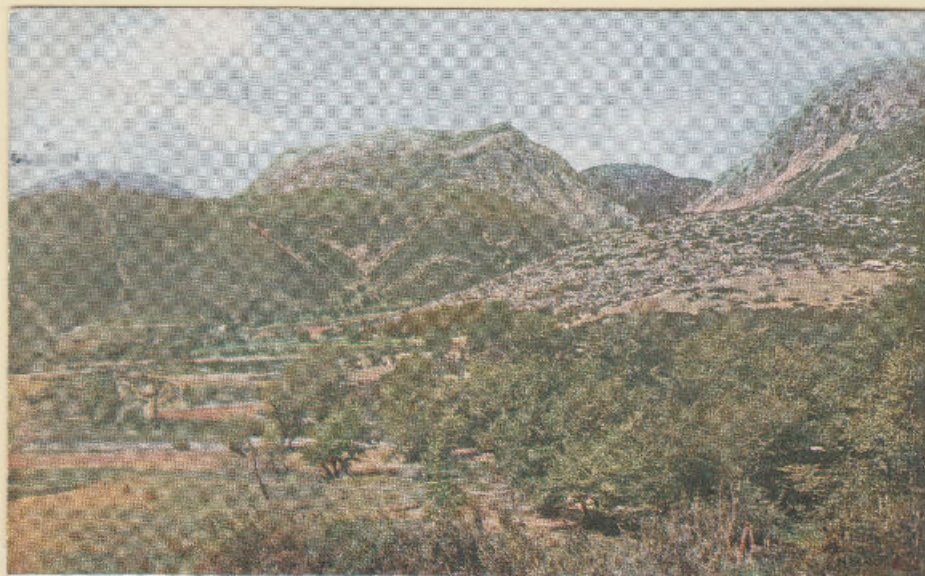


Bizani – Barbed wire ()*

Ἐκδόσεις Φωτογραφικῶν ὁ Ἡλίας – ΠΑΤΡΑΙ.

The fortifications of Bizani are complemented by powerful machine guns, trenches and an extensive network of iron palisades with barbed wire. At the same time, a dense telephone network has been developed to ensure easy communications.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS



ΔΡΟΜΟΣ ΕΜΙΝ ΑΓΑ – ΚΑΝΕΤΑ

GUERRE GRECOTURQUE ROUTE VERS JANINA

Emin Aga - Kaneta Road / Greco Turkish war – The road to Ioannina ()*



Χρηματοπιστωτικό Ταμείο Αδελφών Γ. Αποστόλου Κέρκυρα

The Emin Aga inn is located on the road along the Louros River valley leading to Ioannina. During the months-long siege of Ioannina, the Greek General Headquarters and artillery observation post were established here.



*Untitled - The Crown Prince and Commander-in-Chief Constantine with men of his staff during the operations in Epirus (**)*
Photocard – Unknown editor

On the afternoon of January 10, 1913, Constantine arrived at the Epirus front and took over command, replacing Lieutenant General K. Sapountzakis. The next day, he ordered a temporary ceasefire. He soon requested reinforcements to deal with the losses from the previous battles and the particularly harsh winter, (freezing, frostbite).

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS



S.A.R. le Prince Constantin avec le Premier Ministre Monsieur Venizelos.
 'Η Α. Υ. ο Διάδοχος μετά του κ. Βενιζέλου

His R.H. the Crown Prince by Mr. Venizelos ()*

Επίοικος F. Χαλκούρας, Σύρα (Σέρρες)

During the final phase of the preparations for the liberation of Ioannina, in February 1913, the Commander-in-Chief Constantine requested a tight blockade of the coast of Epirus, from where the Turkish army was supplied. A new Ionian Sea Squadron was then formed, led by the battleship "Psara". The commander of the "Psara", A. Miaoulis, was appointed commander of the Squadron. The blockade began at Preveza and reached as far as Durrës (Dyrrachion).

The Crown Prince Constantine, in a report to the Ministry of War on 30 January 1913, requests the transfer of the entire 1st Division to Epirus.

Prime Minister E. Venizelos visits the front to form a personal perception of the situation.

Under the fear of the Bulgarians, he decides to send limited reinforcements so as not to weaken the Macedonian front.

During their meeting, the two men will be seriously endangered by enemy fire.



GRÈCE. A bord du cuirassier „Psara.” Επὶ τοῦ βωρηκτοῦ „Ψαρά”
 No.98 c. ELEFTHEROUDAKIS, ATHÈNES.

On the battleship "Psara" ()*

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS

The neck of Kaneta in the Manoliassa mountain range is the natural entrance to the Ioannina valley. It was captured in mid-December 1912 and the Greek heavy artillery was stationed here. During the final attack, the Greek headquarters was established here.



The Crown Prince Constantine at the headquarters of Kaneta ()*
Untitled, unknown editor



*The heroic capture by the Cretans of the impregnable hills of Kastri and Mylos in Epirus under Chief M. Papagiannakis (**)*
Chromolithographic depiction of the Cretans' attack with the bayonet.

M. Papagiannakis is one of the Cretan volunteer chieftains who joins the Independent Cretan Regiment. He participates in the general Greek offensive in the early morning hours of February 20, 1913, where all the objectives of the army are achieved.

*Εκδότης Α. Β. ΠΑΙΣΧΑΣ 'Αθήναι (Πλατεία 'Εθν. Τεσσαφνης).

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS



*Greco-Turkish War 1912 – 1913 - His Majesty King CONSTANTINE is monitoring the movements of the Greek army towards Manoliassa in Epirus (**)*

ΕΛΘ. Γ. Ν. Ἀλεξάνδρ. Ἐν Πειραιῇ ἀρ. 270

Greek heavy artillery fire against the fixed targets of Bizani during the siege of Ioannina. During these operations, Constantine is the Crown Prince. However, apparently at the time of the publication of the above picture postcard, he had been proclaimed King after the assassination of his father, George I.



Greco-Turkish War 1913- Night bombing of Bizani

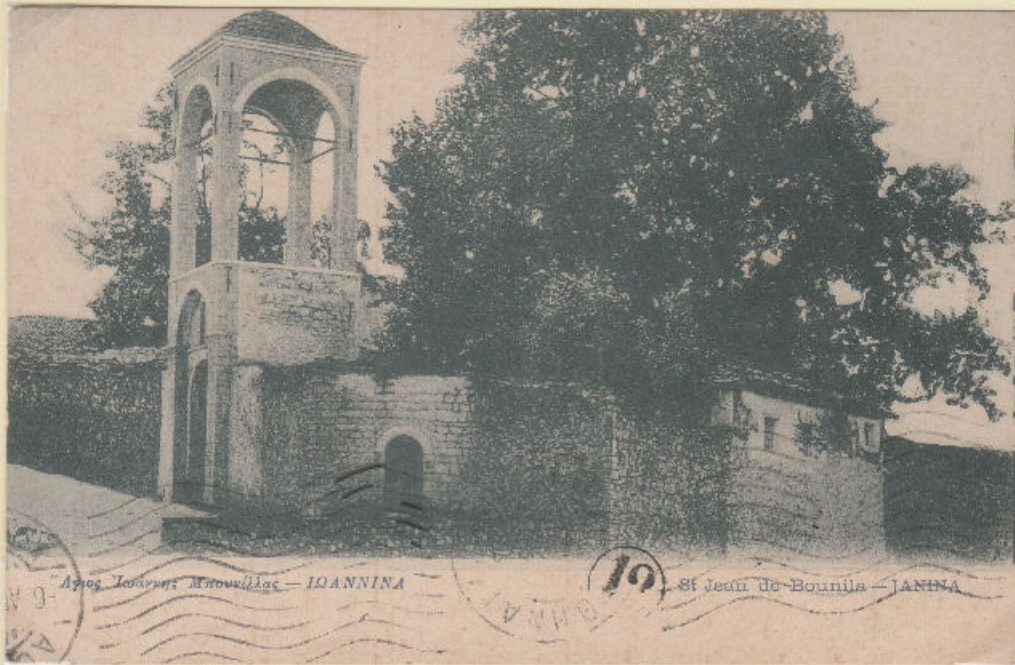
(ο) ΑΘΗΝΑΙ ΚΕΝΤΡΙΚΟΝ 15 ΔΕΚ. 13 to Alexandria, Egypt

Chromolithographic depiction, unknown editor, numbered 237 front bottom right

In the foreground, a vehicle and men of the Greek Health Service are treating the injured.

On February 19, 1913, the Greek artillery fired non-stop day and night against the enemy artillery positions and the main trenches of the Turkish infantry. The Turks responded with almost all of the guns of Bizani, but without serious results, and by noon they fell silent.

THE FIRST BALKAN WAR: THE OPERATIONS IN EPIRUS



Agios Ioannis Bounilas - IOANNINA

(o) IOANNINA 29 MAP. 13 to AΘΗΝΑΙ ΚΕΝΤΡΙΚΟΝ 6 ΑΠΡ. 13

A. Pallis & Cie - Athènes

Two daring officers of the 8th and 9th battalions, Iatridis and Velissariou respectively, continue the pursuit of the enemy despite the order for a temporary cessation of hostilities. At 6 pm on February 20, 1913, they arrive at the hills of Agios Ioannis of Bounila, on the southern outskirts of Ioannina near the headquarters of Esat Pasha and cut off the city's telephone communication with Bizani. The telephone silence causes panic in the Turkish leadership and leads to the decision to surrender.



*The Evzones dance in Ioannina (**)*

Chromolithographic illustration

J. P. Vafakos, Publisher, Chicago, Ill.

In the early hours of February 21, 1913, after negotiations, 1,000 Turkish officers, 32,000 soldiers and 108 cannons were surrendered to the Greek army. At noon on February 21, the battalions of the Evzones entered Ioannina together with the cavalry. The following day, the Liberator Commander-in-Chief entered triumphantly.

THE ASSASSINATION OF KING GEORGE I



The place where the National Martyr King George I was assassinated in Thessaloniki

(o) SALONIQUE 20 ??N 14 to Paris, France

In the foreground, as an honor guard, there stood men of the Cretan Gendarmerie in front of a memorial table where there is a cross with a text from the Book of Revelation.

Edit D. Soudes, Salonique

On March 5, 1913, the King, who had already been in Thessaloniki since October 29, 1912, was assassinated by Alexandros Schinas on a central street in the city. A month and a half later, the murderer committed suicide by falling from the window of the Administrative Building, without his motives ever being clarified.



The funeral of the National Martyr King George I in Thessaloniki ()*

Edit D. Soudes, Salonique

The procession of the Royal body begins on the morning of March 12, 1913 with 101 cannon shots. The coffin is placed on a cannon casket, covered half with a Greek flag and half with a Danish flag. On it the crown, the sword with its scabbard and the King's cap. The royal dead body is accompanied by an honorary guard of Evzones from the palace.

CONSTANTINE, KING OF THE GREEKS



ΚΗΔΕΙΑ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΓΕΩΡΓΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ Α'.

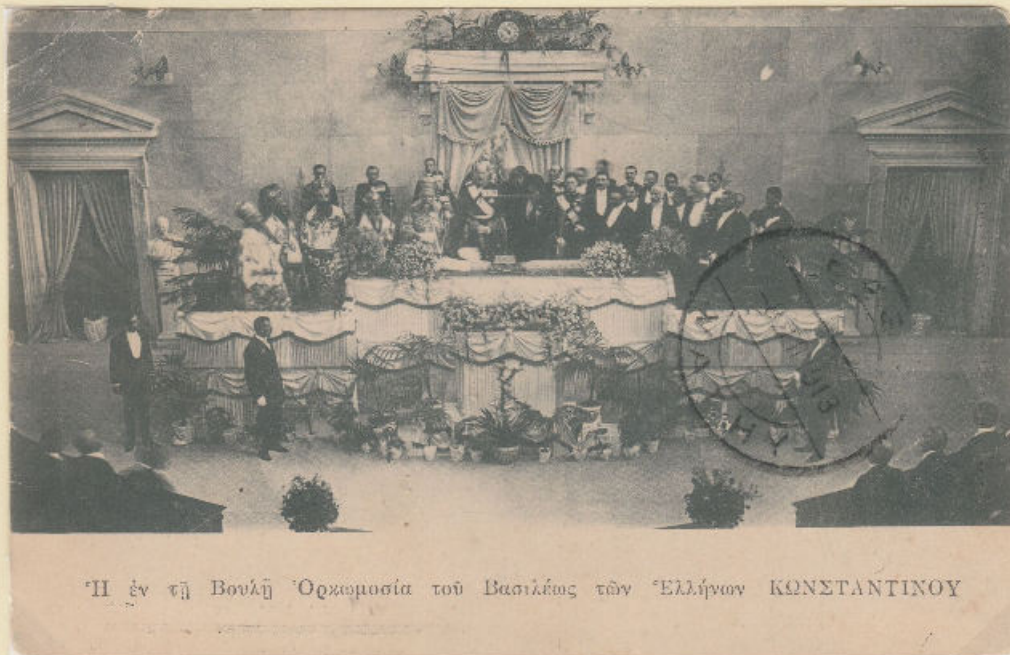
LES FUNÉRAILLES DE SA MAJESTÉ LE ROI DE GRÈCE GEORGES A'.

Ἡ Α. Μ. ὁ Βασιλεὺς Κωνσταντῖνος μετὰ τοῦ Διαδόχου καὶ τῶν λοιπῶν πριγκήπων καὶ ξένων Διαδόχων.

*Funeral of King George I - His Majesty King Constantine with the Crown Prince and other princes of the foreign heirs (**)*

A Pallis & Cie - Athènes

The embalmed body of George I is transported on the yacht "Amphitritis" from Thessaloniki to Piraeus and it is exposed to public pay homage for five days. The funeral service takes place in the Metropolis of Athens in a climate of heavy mourning. The burial takes place on the royal estate at Tatoi.



Ἡ ἐν τῇ Βουλῇ Ὁρκωμοσία τοῦ Βασιλέως τῶν Ἑλλήνων ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥ

*The Oath-taking in Parliament of the King of the Greeks CONSTANTINE
(o) from Kavala 29 August 1913 to Samos, VATHY 8 ΣΕΠ 1913*

Ἐκδόσεις Γ. Ν. Ἀλεξάνδρου - Ἐν Πειραιῶν ἀν. 240

The new King was solemnly sworn in at 11 am on March 8, 1913. With his accession to the throne, substantial changes occurred in the political situation of Greece. The different geostrategic approaches between Constantine and Prime Minister Venizelos gradually led to open disagreements concerning the management of major national issues. The balancing and appeasing speech of the deceased, versatile George I was no longer present. After the Balkan Wars, the conflict between the two men would lead to the National Schism.

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR



Ο Στρατηγός κ. Κάλαρης Διοικητής της 2ης Μεραρχίας
ἐν ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚῃ.

Le Général Mr Kallaris Commandant
la 2^e Division à SALONIQUE.

*General Mr. Kalaris, Commander of the 2nd Division in Thessaloniki (**)*

A. Pallis et Cie - Athènes 2032

On June 16, 1913, Bulgarian troops suddenly and simultaneously attacked the Serbs in Gevgelija and the Greeks in Pangaio and Nigrita, without an official declaration of war ! The Second Balkan War had just broken out. On June 17, the Commander of Thessaloniki, Major General Kalaris, delivered an ultimatum to the Bulgarian garrison commander. This demanded the complete disarmament of his soldiers and their withdrawal from the city. The latter never responded. Street fighting broke out that lasted all night. The men of the 2nd division were reinforced by the Cretan Gendarmerie. Eventually, the entire Bulgarian detachment was captured.



Ἑλληνοβουλγαρικός Πόλεμος 1913
Ἀπόβαςις Στρατοῦ ἐν Θεσσαλονίκῃ

Greco-Bulgarian War 1913 - Army landing in Thessaloniki ()*

Photo. Copyright by „Atlantis“, Inc., Station E., New York

On June 20, 1913, Greek troopships arrived in Thessaloniki with military reinforcements. This was preceded by the arrival of King Constantine and the issuance of a general order. This order emphasized the abandonment of the defensive attitude and the launch of a counterattack by the Greeks. In June 1913, there were approximately 118,000 men of the Greek army in Macedonia.

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR



The battle of Kilikis (19-21 June, 1913) ()*

Εδiteur F. Caloutas, Syra (Grèce)

In the three-day battle on the heights of Kilikis, four Greek divisions overran successive lines of very well-organized fortifications of the 3rd Bulgarian division and forced it into a complete retreat. The casualties of the Greek army were terrifying, 8,828 dead and wounded, including many officers.



The bayonet capture of the tents of the Bulgarian headquarters of Kilikis ()*
Chromolithographic depiction of the intensity of the Greek soldiers and Evzones attack.

"Atlas", 25 Madison St. - New York.

What prevails in the ranks of the Greek officers and soldiers is a strong desire for revenge that pushes them to stormy attacks against the enemy trenches. Characteristic are the encouraging words of the Commander-in-Chief King Constantine to the soldiers after the end of the battle of Kilikis - Lachanas: "Fight without mercy".

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR



*First victory of the Greco-Bulgarian War at the Battle of Lachanas 1913 (**)*

Lithographic illustration

Edit D. Sonides, Salonique

The 1st and 6th Greek divisions fought stubborn, long and exhausting battles to capture the heights of Lachanas from 19 to 21 June 1913. Eventually the Bulgarians were driven out and retreated in disorder. However, they managed to cross the Strymon bridge. The victorious outcome of the double battle of Kilkis-Lachanas opened the way for the liberation of Eastern Macedonia by the Greeks. At the same time, it definitively ended the Bulgarian dreams of capturing Thessaloniki.



ΒΟΥΛΓΑΡΟΙ ΑΙΧΜΑΛΩΤΟΙ

Prisonniers Bulgares.

*Bulgarian Prisoners of War (**)*

Editeur P. Caloutas, Syra (Grèce).

Approximately 2,500 Bulgarians are captured.
Nineteen cannons, five rocket launchers, 1,300 rifles and abundant material of all kinds are captured.

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR



*Greco-Bulgarian War 1913 – The great battle of Doirani (**)*

Lithographic illustration

ἔκδ. Γ. Ν. Ἀλεξάνδρ. ἐν Παιταύτῃ 310

The 3rd and 10th Greek divisions attack on the morning of June 23 against the Bulgarian forces that have retreated and organized south of Lake Doirani and the city of the same name. After a short but fierce fight and with the help of artillery, the Greeks capture the city. The number of the Bulgarian prisoners is large, as well as those who drown in the lake in their attempt to escape capture. The casualties of the Greek army are approximately 1,000 dead and wounded.



Spoils of the war against the Bulgarians at Doirani station 1913
(o) TRESOR ET POSTES * 410* 21 OCT 15 to Maine, France

Edit. D. Sonides, Salonique

Doirani was a supply center for the Bulgarian army, with the result that the victory of the Greeks secured them significant supplies, war loots and rich food supplies.

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR



Η ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΜΑΧΗ ΤΗΣ ΣΤΡΩΜΝΙΤΣΗΣ ΚΑΙ
Ο ΘΡΙΑΜΒΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΕΛΛΗΝΩΝ
Κατὰ τὴν μάχην ταύτην οἱ ἄνδρες τοῦ Ἑλληνικοῦ ἐκράτησαν
τὴν Βουλγαρικὴν σημαίαν ἐπὶ τῆς ὁροῦς τοῦ Βουλγαρίου
ἐνένησαν τὰς λέξεις "Εμπρός εἰς τὰς Ἀθήνας".
La grande Bataille de Stromnitsa et la prise
du Drapeau bulgare.

The Greek army, after two days
of fierce fighting,
expels the Bulgarians
from the Kerkini
mountain range
and descends
into the Stromnitsa valley.
The city is captured
amidst
wild celebrations
by Greeks and Muslims
on June 26, 1913.
Later, with the peace treaty,
it will be annexed
again to Bulgaria.

The great battle of Stromnitsa and the Greek triumph () Lithographic depiction
During this battle, the brave Greeks captured the Bulgarian flag on which the Bulgarians
had embroidered the phrase "Forward to Athens".*

Edit D. Soudes, Salonique



Ἑλληνοβουλγαρικὸς Πόλεμος 1913
Βουλγαρικὴ Σημαία Κυριευθεῖσα
ἐν Στρωμνίτῃ

Greco-Bulgarian War 1913 - Bulgarian flag captured in Stromnitsa ()**
A Greek soldier proudly presents the Bulgarian flag as a spoil of war.

Photo. Copyright by "Atlantis", Inc., Station E., New York

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR



ΤΟ ΑΓΗΜΑ ΟΠΕΡ ΚΑΤΕΛΑΒΕ
ΤΗΝ ΚΑΒΑΛΑΝ

ΕΛΛΗΝΟ-ΒΟΥΛΓΑΡΙΚΟΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ
LA GUERRE GRÉCO-BULGARE

LE DÉTACHEMENT QUI OCCUPA
CAVALLA

*Greco-Bulgarian War - The landing force that occupied Kavala (**)*

Εκδόσεις Γ. ΚΑΡΑΜΠΕΛΑ, Στάδιον 12 - Αθήναι.
C. KARABELAS, ATHÈNES

On June 24, 1913, a deceptive naval demonstration is carried out by the Greeks in front of Kavala. The battleship "Hydra" and a large number of transports, which are of course empty, participate in it. The Bulgarians mistakenly believe that a strong Greek landing is imminent and evacuate the city. On June 26, 1913, three destroyers of the Greek fleet occupy the city.



Le grand pont du Demir-issar que les Bulgares ont détruit.
Η ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΓΕΦΥΡΑ ΤΟΥ ΔΕΜΙΡ-ΙΣΣΑΡ ΤΗΝ ΟΠΟΙΑΝ ΟΙ ΒΟΥΛΓΑΡΟΙ
ΥΠΟΧΩΡΟΥΝΤΕΣ ΚΑΤΕΣΤΡΕΨΑΝ

The great bridge of Demir-Issar which the retreating Bulgarians destroyed ()*

Éditeur F. Caloutas, Syra (Grèce).

On the morning of June 27, 1913, Greek military units attacked the village of Vetrina, which they eventually captured. The Bulgarians then abandoned their positions and retreated east of the Strymon River, after first blowing up the large bridge leading to Demir-Isar (Sidirokastro).

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR



His Majesty the King with the princes on the Demir-Issar bridge ()*

Editeur F. Caloutas, Syra (Grèce)

King Constantine in the foreground with his two sons, Crown Prince George and Prince Alexander, and members of his staff on the repaired large Demir-Issar bridge. It took three days of great effort by the Greek engineers to repair the bridge.



Les cadavres de plusieurs victimes des massacres commis par les Bulgares à Démir-Hissar. Au milieu, l'égoût où fut enseveli le Métropolitain de Méléniko.

*The bodies of some of those massacred by the Bulgarians in Demir-Issar.
In the center, the pit where the Metropolitan of Melenikos was buried. (**)*

Translated from French – Unknown editor

The images of horror and massacres of Demir-Issar are complemented by corresponding vivid images in Nigrita, Doxato and Serres. Now the Greek army often takes similar reprisals. Commander-in-Chief Constantine decides on a war to the last, up to the complete destruction of the enemy and the capture of its own capital, Sofia.

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR



ΕΛΛΗΝΟ-ΒΟΥΛΓΑΡΙΚΟΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ 1913.

Ὁ καταλαβὼν τὰς Σέρρας Ταγματάρχης κ. Μαζαράκης
ἐν τῇ γραφείῳ τοῦ Διοικητηρίου Σερρῶν μετὰ τοῦ Μητροπολίτου.

*Greco-Bulgarian War 1913 - The major who occupied Serres, Mr. Mazarakis,
in the office of the Serres Governorate together with the Metropolitan (**)*

ἐκδ. Γ. Μ. Ἀλεξάνη Ἐν Πειραιεὶ ἀρ. 300

On the morning of June 28, 1913, the Bulgarians scattered by the Greek army, as they retreated northward with the armed units of the Bulgarian comitato, entered the city and set it on fire while they massacred many of its inhabitants. The Greek army did not take the precaution of protecting the inhabitants and entered the city of Serres in the afternoon of the same day.



Untitled – Photograph by A. Romaides and F. Zeitz

Unknown editor, (o) Athens to Bucuresti, Romania, September 1914

The Greek army staff plans the operations for the capture of the Kresna Straits. In the center, King Constantine is seated. To his left, seated, V. Dousmanis and I. Metaxas, while S. Staikos is standing. To his right, seated, doctor Anastasopoulos, Prince Christopher and X. Stratigos (in the Viennese rocking chair) while Prince Andreas is standing. Behind the King, standing, Crown Prince George.

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR

Levunovo is located in the Strymon Valley, on the Kresna Strait. It was here that the Greek Headquarters took at position from July 6 until the signing of the Treaty of Bucharest.

It is easily apparent that the photograph has been artistically edited. It is one of an impressive postcard set of ten photographs related to Constantine's leading role in different scenes of the Balkan Wars.

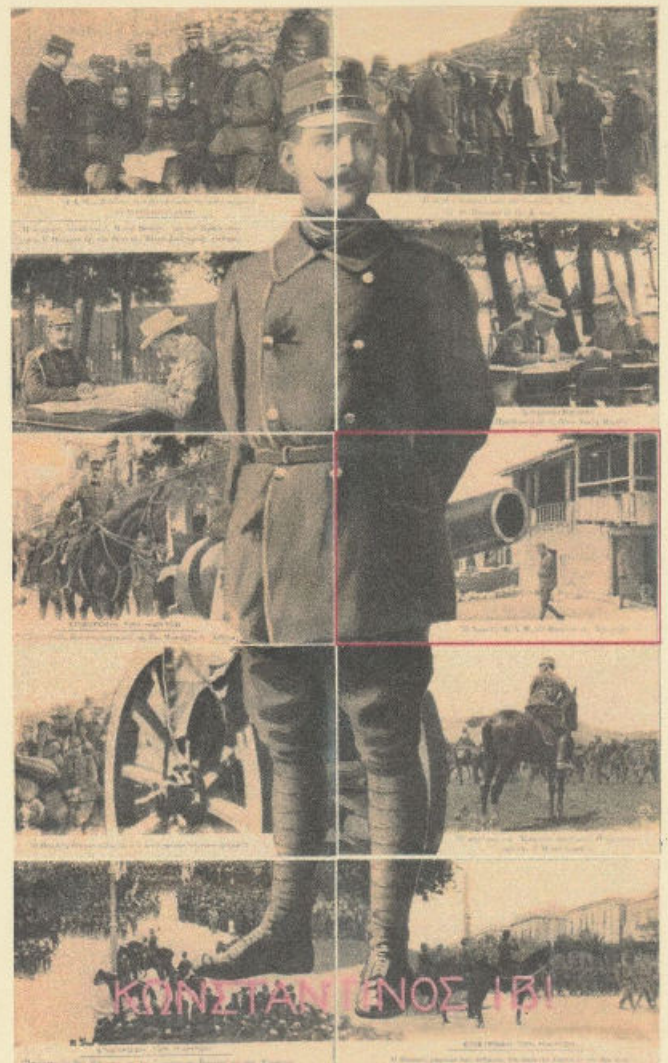


Ἡ Διαμονὴ τῆς Α. Μ. τοῦ Βασιλέως ἐν Λεβουνόβῳ

*The stay of His Majesty the King in Levunovo (**)*

Κωνσταντίνος Β΄ ὁ Βασιλεὺς τῆς Ἑλλάδος

Combining all the ten postcards reveals the emblematic figure of the Victorious Army Commander King, as a descendant of the namesake last Byzantine Emperor: Constantine XII !



(photocopy)

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR



G. Roilos (1867-1928)

*Constantine XII - Kresna 1913, by G.N. Roilos (**)*

The postcard was issued in 1921 ! on the occasion of Constantine's departure for the Asia Minor campaign, in memory of old triumphs and hopes for new ones !

ΕΛΛΗΝΟΒΟΥΛΓΑΡΙΚΟΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ 1913

The Kresna Straits constitute a significant natural obstacle to the advance into the interior of Bulgaria.

The rapid advance of the Greek army does not give the Bulgarians time to fortify them.

G. Roilos (1867-1928) was one of the most important Greek painters of the Munich School with a particular interest in historical and military themes. In the Balkan Wars he was at the war front, taking notes and giving pictorial compositions of the events with liveliness and realism without focusing on a central element.



*Greco-Bulgarian War 1913 - In the Straits of Kresna (**)*

Printed in Germany - Greek horse artillery during the crossing of the Strymon River through the Kresna Straits.

Photo. Copyright by „Atlantis“, Inc., Station E., New York

After crossing the Kresna Straits, the Greek army achieves a new impressive victory at the Bulgarian fortress of Simitli on July 13, but pays a heavy toll of blood. In the victorious battle of Dzhumaya, the Greeks face the Bulgarian counterattacks with courage and determination, but they have reached the limits of their endurance.

The armistice of July 18 finds the victors just ten kilometers from the borders of the old Bulgarian state.

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR



ΑΙΑΒΑΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΠΥΡΟΒΟΛΙΚΟΥ ΕΠΙ ΤΟΥ ΠΟΤΑΜΟΥ ΝΕΣΤΟΥ

*Artillery crossing over the Nestos River (**)*

Éditeur F. Caloutas, Syra (Grèce)

The Greek army, crossing the Nestos River, continues successfully in Western Thrace, occupying Xanthi on July 12, 1913, while the fleet advances to Porto Lagos and Dedeagats (Alexandroupolis) on July 11, 1913.

The postcard has the same numbering as another from the same editor but with different content, see page 72.

On Hill 1378 the first Evzones regiment writes the most brilliant page of the Greek epic. In the cruelest and bloodiest conflict of the Balkan Wars it loses 3/5 of its men and most of its officers. From 12 to 15 July 1913 the hill changes hands three times until it is abandoned by the Bulgarians. Among the dead are the hero of Bizani I. Velissariou and G. Kolokotronis, grandson of the legend of the Greek Revolution for Independence, Th. Kokokotronis.



ΕΛΛΗΝΟΒΟΥΛΓΑΡΙΚΟΣ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ 1913

Οι ἀθάνατοι εὐζωνοὶ πηδόντες τὰς φλόγας τῶν πυρκαϊῶν τὰς ὁποίας ἤναπτεν ὁ βουλγαρικὸς στρατὸς ὑποχωρῶν πρὸς παρεμπόδισιν τῆς ὀρμητικότητος τοῦ Ἑλλην. Στρατοῦ.

*Greco-Bulgarian War 1913 (**)*

Lithographic illustration of the Evzones jumping over the flames of the fires lit by the enemy during their retreat.

ἔκδ. Γ. Μ. Ἀλεξάνη Ἐν Πειραιεὶ ἀρ. 500

THE SECOND BALKAN WAR



*Greek soldiers chasing the well-known bugs (**)*

Photograph by A. Romaides and F. Zeitz

Éditeur F. Caloulas, Syra (Grèce)

In addition to the cases of lice during the Second Balkan War, increased cases of malaria and smallpox are reported. However, what particularly concerned the army health service was the cholera epidemic. 2,700 soldiers fell ill and 515 of them died. The systematic vaccination of the entire army and a significant number of civilians had a serious impact on limiting the epidemic.

THE PEACE TREATY



Cooperation between King - Prime Minister - Dousmani, at Hadzi - Beylik (Vyroneia Serres)

Unknown editor, (o) ΑΘΗΝΑΙ ΚΕΝΤΡΙΚΟΝ 31 ΔΕΚ. 13 to Munich

After the capture of Doirani, the Greek General Headquarters was transferred to Hadzi-Beylik, a railway station on the Doirani-Sidirokastro line. There, Venizelos met Constantine twice. First on June 30, 1913, when the King rejected the Russian proposal for an armistice. On July 14, Venizelos passed through the General Headquarters again on his way to the Bucharest conference. Constantine continued to insist on the complete neutralization of the Bulgarian army.

THE PEACE TREATY



Η ΕΠΙΣΤΡΟΦΗ ΑΠΟ ΤΟΝ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΝ

Τὸ φυλαχτὸ σου μ' ἔσωσε καὶ νά με, ἀνέριος, Μάννα,
Κιλκίς μὲ λέν καὶ Τσουμαγιά καὶ λευτεριάς χαρμάννα.
Δός μου ἀκόμα δύο φιλιὰ μὲ τ' ἄγια σου τὰ χεῖλη,
Ποῦ σοῦφερα τὴν Πασχαλιά μὲ τοὺς ἀνθούς τ' Ἀπρίλη.
Μεγάλωσε ἡ Πατρίδα μας σὰν τὰ πλατιά σου στήθια,
Κιλκίς μὲ λέν καὶ Τσουμαγιά ἐμὲ καὶ τὰλλα τὰ παιδιά
Ἀλήθεια Μάννα, ἀλήθεια...

Σ. ΜΑΤΣΟΥΚΑΣ

*The return from the war (**)*

Accompanied by a short moving poem by S. Matsoukas
(see Frame 1, page 11), unknown editor



Conferința Balcanică
în București 1913

*Balkan Congress in Bucharest 1913 (**)*

The back of the card lists the names of the attendees, editor: Bucharest University Publications

Depositul Universal Șaraga București, sub Hotel de France.
Ort ce Reproducția Interzisă

On July 28, 1913, the Peace Treaty was signed between Bulgaria on the one hand, and Romania, Greece, Montenegro and Serbia on the other. This treaty, among other things, defined the borders of Greece with Bulgaria.

THE PEACE TREATY



Balkan War - Thessaloniki Sector (translated from Italian) ()*

The map shows the borders of the Balkan states after the Second Balkan War.

After the end of the war, Greece increased its area by 90% and its population by 80%. It would henceforth become a force to be reckoned with in the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean.

THE GREEK TRIUMPH

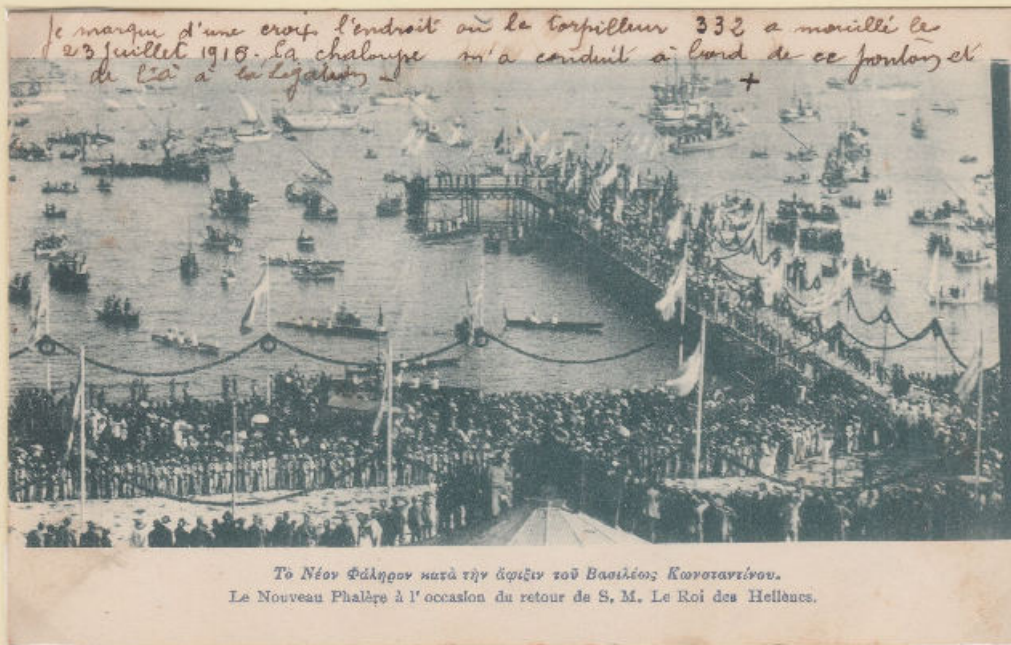


*Greco-Bulgarian War 1913 - Spoils in Piraeus (**)*

Photo. Copyright by „Atlautis“, Inc., Station E., New York

A large part of the war spoils is transported by requisitioned ships to Piraeus. Syntagma and Omonia squares host crowds of people who are curious about the most impressive Turkish-Bulgarian booty, cannons and large long-range guns.

THE GREEK TRIUMPH



Neo Faliro upon the arrival of King Constantine ()*

A Pallis & Cie - Athènes

From early in the morning of August 5, 1913, crowds of people take their places in Neo Faliro, Kastella and the hills around the Acropolis, to see the arrival of the fleet and welcome the King. When the warships appear, the guns begin the honorable shots, while the other ships in Faliro whistle demonically. As soon as the "Averof" anchors, the warships return the cannon fire.



*The reception of King Constantine XII - The Minister of the Navy N. Stratos and the Boy Scouts (**)*

Εκδοταί Γ. ΚΑΡΑΜΠΕΛΑΣ, Σταθίου 12 - Ἀθήναι.
C. CARABELAS, ATHÈNES

By order of the King, wounded men from the hospitals are transported to the reception platform, where various associations with their flags and a Scout platoon have also been placed. Myrtle, laurels and Greek flags complete the scene.

THE GREEK TRIUMPH

After the King's return, the doxology is celebrated in the Metropolis of Athens. Constantine remains kneeling throughout, paying homage to the Saint Mary of Victory.

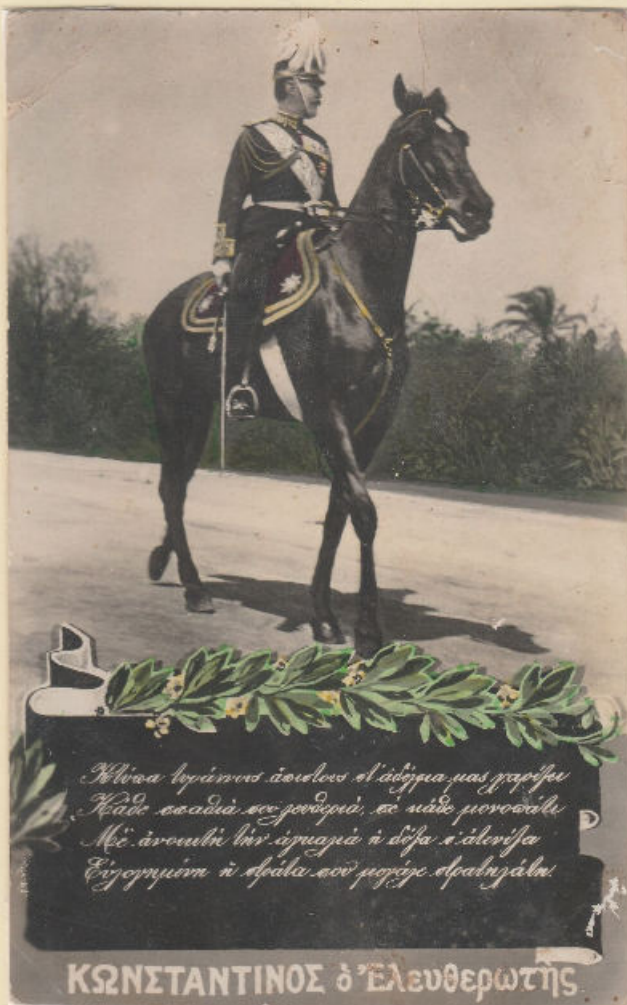


Δοξολογία μετὰ τὴν ἐπογραφὴν τῆς εἰρήνης.
Te - Deum après la signature de la paix.

*Guerra des Balkans
1911*

Praise after the signing of the Peace Treaty (*)
Constantine in his official uniform accompanied by Queen Sophia

A. Pallis & Cie - Athènes



*Κόσμος ὑμῶντος ἀνέλεος ὁ ἀδύνατος παρῆναι
Καὶ ἐκείνῳ ἐν πολεμῶντι, ἐν κατὰ μὲν οὐρανὸν
Μὲν ἀντιπρὸς τὴν ἀνταρξίαν ἡ δόξα ἡ ἀντιπρὸς
Ἐξοχηθῆναι ἡ δόξα ἐν πολεμῶντι ἀντιπρὸς τὴν*

ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΣ ὁ Ἐλευθερωτής

Constantine the Liberator
Equestrian depiction of the King, wearing the uniform
of the Commander-in-Chief,
the victor's laurel and the poem of similar content (**)

Editeur Jean Boucass - Cairo.

The "victorious General" is at the height of his glory.
After the humiliating defeat in the
Greco-Turkish War of 1897,
the triumph of the Balkan Wars
catapults his fame into the consciousness
of most Greeks.

With his successive victories,
he significantly promotes Greek irredentism
and is crowned "Creator of Greater Greece".

In August 1913, the Kaiser awards him
the marshal's baton.

Venizelos does the same a few months later.

"No anthem is missing from Constantine's crown anymore"!