

# Costas Tsimas and the TWA hijacking

by Phocion

The General Secretary of the Greek Ministry of Public Order, *Costas Tsimas*, happens to be a trained terrorist himself, who received his training at a *Saiqa* terrorist camp in the late 1960s. During that period, Mr. Tsimas was a political emigré in Western Europe and a leading representative of Mr. Papandreou's political organization-in-exile, the PAK, predecessor of Greece's present ruling socialist party, the PASOK.

The *Saiqa* in the 1960s (as well as today) was a front for Syrian intelligence and its chief recruiting officer in Western Europe was the notorious *Michel Pablo*, then also the publisher of *Saiqa's* newspaper in Europe. Michel Pablo, a septuagenarian Alexandrine Greek who has been Papandreou's friend since 1936, has been General Secretary of the Trotskyist Fourth International, a convenient cover for his long-standing career as an Abwehr agent during the Second World War, and, after that war, for the Soviet intelligence services operating in the Near East and the Mediterranean.

To this day, Pablo is an intimate collaborator of Ben Bella and Ben Bella's financial angel, Swiss banker François Genoud, the NSDAP (Nazi) party member who acquired fame as Adolf Hitler's literary executor. This places Pablo and his operation squarely in the middle of the so-called Curiel network, run today by East Germany's intelligence services based on the reconstituted old Nazi networks in the Middle East, including the notorious Alois Brunners who is still living in Damascus. Alois Brunner, of the same age as Michel Pablo, is believed to be one of the key "interfaces" between Syrian intelligence and East Germany's SSD.

Costas Tsimas, the Greek General Secretary of the Ministry of Public Order, appears to have been an agent of this network since the late 1960s. He also has responsibility for the security of the Athens Airport from which TWA Flight 847 was hijacked on June 14. In order to cover up for his responsibility around the hijacking, Tsimas, by agreement with the Amal hijackers, disseminated the cover story that the hijackers' weapons had been put on the plane in Cairo. When this story failed to hold up, a second was circulated, also in collaboration with the hijackers, purporting that the weapons were concealed inside various food items which "could not have possibly been detected." The real story appears to be that the weapons were placed inside the aircraft by Greek ground maintenance personnel under the jurisdiction of Costas Tsimas.

Now, five FBI agents and three liberal U.S. Senators have descended to Athens to manufacture a credible cover for Mr. Papandreou's illegal, terrorist government, Tsimas included. The FBI is looking for omissions and neglect on the part of the Papandreou government which led to the hijacking. The fact of the matter is that the Papandreou government was in on the engineering of the hijacking from the beginning, in collaboration with Syrian intelligence.

The persons who have been in on the secret appear to be: 1) Costas Tsimas; 2) Interior Minister Agamemnon Koutsogiorgas; 3) Papandreou's personal secretary Michael Tsingias; 4) Andreas Papandreou himself; 5) the Director of the KYP. Certain individuals in the Greek Foreign Ministry also appear to have been involved.

Exactly one month before the hijacking, Costas Tsimas intervened to abort a police investigation of the circumstances surrounding the death of a terrorist, D. Tsoutsoumis, associated with the Baader-Meinhof gang's branch in Gratz, Austria. Tsoutsoumis, like Tsimas himself, had received terrorist training in a *Saiqa* terrorist camp in Syria during the late 1960s. Tsimas' intervention in the investigation intended to cover up Tsoutsoumis's relations with PAK and PASOK, and also one very intriguing fact:

Tsoutsoumis' little address book, found on his body, included the name, address, and telephone number of Sergei Bokhan, the First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy in Athens. The address book with Bokhan's name was found on May 16. Sergei Bokhan disappeared on May 23. The Soviet embassy reported his disappearance to the Greek government on May 25 and asked for help to locate him. On May 26, the Greek government officially abandoned the search to locate Bokhan.

On May 28, it was reported that Bokhan was in fact a senior Soviet GRU officer running espionage, terror, and political penetration operations in the Eastern Mediterranean and that he had, in fact, safely defected to the United States. He was supposed, according to these reports, to possess information so incriminating to the Papandreou government, that if made public, Papandreou would definitely lose the June 2 general election. No revelations of such sort were ever made public and Papandreou carried off an unprecedented vote-fraud.

Exactly two weeks after the election, TWA flight 847 was hijacked. Onboard the plane were a number of very important United States intelligence officers who had crossed swords with Bokhan prior to his defection, when he was trying to penetrate the U.S. Communications base at Nea Marki, 44 kilometers outside of Athens, in the spring of 1984.

If the five FBI agents in Athens come back with a report whitewashing the role of Costas Tsimas in the hijacking, some interesting light will be shed on the subject of the bungled handling of the Sergei Bokhan "defection"—or whatever it was.