

ENTROPY TIME REDUX

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On December 22 a powerful bomb exploded outside the Athens Court of Appeals. The blast disintegrated the glass façade of the building and caused damage to surrounding apartment buildings. Fortunately, there were no injuries. Police believe the bomb was the handiwork of the so-called Group of People’s Fighters, one the dozens of such obscure terrorist cells populating Greece’s dark underbelly.

For the past several months, an anarchist gang calling itself “Rubicon” has been staging “protest” attacks on public buildings and foreign embassies. Their targets so far include, among others, the embassies of Spain and Saudi Arabia; the Attica Prefecture; the Public Power Corporation; the Defense Ministry; the Turkish Airlines office in Athens; and the Ministry of Macedonia & Thrace in Thessaloniki. The attackers throw leaflets with anarchist slogans, use sledgehammers to damage property, and stain facades and interior spaces with red paint.

Rubicon invaded the courtyard of Parliament House but police attempting to arrest the intruders were stopped by order of the parliament’s speaker Nikos Voutsis. Rubicon terrorizes and threatens to harm “exploiters of the people” as, for example, in the cases of a surgeon, who was accosted in his hospital office and accused of demanding extra payments from patients, and an IRS director confronted, also inside his office, for approving the foreclosure of the house of an “unemployed worker.” Rubicon videotapes the attacks and uploads them to the Web.

Exarcheia Square, only a stone’s throw from the Athens Archaeological Museum usually teeming with foreign tourists, is a no-go area for the police as it is dominated by anarchist gangs

who occupy the buildings of the nearby National Technical University and use them as sanctuaries and storage for makeshift bombs and other weapons (police are prevented from entering academic buildings in Greece under the so-called ‘academic asylum’ law.) Street terrorists from Exarcheia stage frequent raids of nearby main streets to stop buses, order passengers off, and then set the buses alight.

Similar groupings of hooded criminals have taken to invading university campuses and attacking students and teachers alike. Two recent such attacks caused significant damage at the University of Macedonia where the administration building was thoroughly trashed. The club-wielding raiders have also set their sights on the media: on December 21, one such gang invaded the offices of the Daily Press Association in Thessaloniki causing substantial damage to the building and the association’s office equipment.

With Greek banks sinking under a huge load of non-performing mortgages, Greece’s lenders insist on clearing the books through court-supervised foreclosures to ward off another crisis that could lead to banking bankruptcies with calamitous impact on Greece’s already moribund economy.

Foreclosures though have been stalled for months as violent protesters interrupt court proceedings and threaten notaries public administering the foreclosures. In response to this wave of violence, notaries refuse to assist in the process fearing for their well-being and have brought the courts to a standstill. The administration of PM Tsipras, under pressure from the lenders, has passed legislation criminalizing attacks on notaries but few believe the new law will be enforced.

To top the cake of violence, terrorism, vandalism, and lawlessness, a group of environmental terrorists, calling itself the “Blackgreen Arsonists,” issued a threat of contaminating supermarket foods and beverages with hydrochloric acid in protest of “Christmas consumerism.” Last year, a similar gang calling itself “Green Nemesis” issued the same threat. “Out of an abundance of caution” authorities released a warning to consumers not to buy the targeted items as part of their Christmas shopping.

All the above constitute only a sampling of the rapid deterioration of Greece’s domestic situation, which is further complicated by the burgeoning illegal immigration crisis threatening to cause dangerous social upheaval. With tens of thousands of desperate undocumented aliens,

crowding “hotspots” on the large Greek island near the Turkish coast, and violent protests breaking out among the interned in miserable conditions as another cold winter sets in, the Tsipras government is paralyzed like the proverbial deer hypnotized by the oncoming car’s headlights.

The risks of dangerous destabilization of the country are further steeply increased by the eternal habits of the Greek political class: *none of Greece’s political parties has ever acted outside the boundaries of “political cost” or stopped to accept a “democracy” defined by perennial anarchical chaos in government and in the streets.*

“Conservatives” and “leftists” alike perpetually compete in shallow, often chaotic, parliamentary cockfights which, they proudly insist, are the cogs of modern pure Hellenic democracy. None of them, high or low, wish to recognize the tuberculous condition of the public sector, which they themselves continue to feed with borrowed monies, the irrelevance of claimed “national independence,” or the huge risks involved in allowing thugs to dominate daily life and continue to wreck, attack, and threaten unmolested.

Politicians and “opinion makers” all sing in unison the praises of Greece’s post-junta era which, according to them, is replete with brilliant popular “victories,” but stay pathetically blind to their own corruption and perpetuation of the state-centered “swamp,” to borrow Donald Trump’s cherished expression describing Washington’s corrupt political establishment.

Yet, the Greek “ruling classes” do not exist in a vacuum. They are surrounded by voters, who dutifully trudge out every time to cast meaningless ballots and return to their narrow home environment believing they make a “difference.” This merry-go-round of general elections has failed before and will continue to fail in the future, especially now that Greece has *become a protectorate of Brussels with a government of elected counter clerks who dutifully carry out the avalanche of diktats from the “bailout” authorities.*

Between the collapse of domestic law and order and a regional environment boiling with dangerous uncertainties and hostile “friends” like Turkey, Greece faces a *true existential challenge which her politicians and her people refuse to recognize.* But hiding behind one’s finger hardly ever averted a disaster.

Eight years ago, in these pages, we [warned](#) Greece was approaching “entropy time,” in other words that Greece “...is finally giving up on the sinews that keep a nation together.”

This warning is more relevant today than any time before. But little will change. The politicians will continue with their aping of EU-demanded neoliberal suicide “solutions;” voters will continue hoping for a miracle and staying apathetic and morose as their livelihoods and their future are destroyed by European “solidarity;” anarchists and terrorists will continue having a field day wrecking, burning, breaking, and attacking unopposed; and Greece’s “friends and allies” will continue using the country as the ball in a beach volley contest.

The only unanswered question remaining is how long can the Greek asthmatic blue bus sustain this gruesome adventure before groaning to an inglorious permanent stop.