

E. N. Stathopoulos, *Revolutionary Fokida: The Generation of Twenty-One and the Fate of All the Veterans (on the basis of archival sources)*, Athens 1994, pp. 327.

E. N. Stathopoulos examines a rather distressing subject: the treatment meted out to the veterans of the Greek War of Independence by the newly established Greek state, a fate they certainly did not deserve after so many years of sacrifice. He confines his investigation to the veterans from the prefecture of Fokida, some of whom have already received attention from other scholars who have dealt with the veterans of Parnassida and the province of Dorida. Stathopoulos takes published data into account and extends his own research to a further six lists from the period 1821-46, which bear the names of some 7,000 natives of Fokida.

Owing to the sheer volume of material, the writer tells us, the work is divided into two volumes. The first, which is the subject of this review, gives a brief and considerably simplified introduction to each section followed by the lists of names, together with guidelines for their study. The second is essentially an appendix, with indexes of surnames, demographic data, place-names, a chronology of the events connected with Fokida, a bibliography, an addendum, and the general indexes.

The first volume is divided into six chapters, each of which bears the title of the list discussed in it.

The general introduction to the book gives a brief account of revolutionary Roumeli by Yeoryios Ainian, a member of the Supreme Court of Appeal. He particularly stresses the zeal with which the people of Central Greece set all personal considerations aside and fought for Greek liberation, and he then goes on to discuss the activity in the Fokida region and the chieftains who were active there.

The first chapter concerns the "Veterans' Archive", which was established by the second Services Committee in 1865 and is now housed in the National Library. It chiefly comprises the personal files of the ordinary veterans who appealed to the two Services Committees (set up in 1845 and 1865) to have their service during the War of Independence recognised. Apart from the applications submitted by the individuals concerned or their heirs and the testimonials supplied by the chieftains, vouching for their active service, the 2,000 or so personal files contain other documents too, such as decisions by the revolutionary authorities, certificates confirming promotions, promissory notes from the National Fund, sworn evidence by fellow fighters—all material that adds to our knowledge of the situation in revolutionary Fokida.

The people from Desfina and Galaxidi constitute a special case, for their applications are very few in number, though they are known to have played an important and varied part in the struggle. It is hinted that the files containing their supporting documents were destroyed by certain officials. The background information is followed by a list of the names of 1,845 veterans, their patronymics, and their place of origin and residence.

The second group of files, titled "Medals", is in the General State Archives and forms part of the Otto Archive. The institution was established to honour the veterans born before 1814 by awarding them a small metal cross and a certificate signed by the King. These 310 files cover two periods, from the rising of 3 September 1835 to the end of 1844, and from 1845 onwards (which was when the first Services Committee was set up). Unfortunately, the institution was introduced just at a time when internal strife broke out, and the government used this as a pretext to honour only monarchist veterans, or at least those who had not openly opposed the monarchy.

The third list bears the names of 1,762 priests and citizens of Fokida mentioned in documents from the period 1821-61. They could not be included in the other lists, because there was insufficient evidence of their participation in the Struggle.

The information contained in the next chapter is taken from lists that are now in the General State Archives and concern the corps of chieftains that were set up during the Struggle. The lists were compiled by the Inspectors, who were individuals appointed by the Temporary Administration, frequently the clerks, and sometimes even the leaders, of the armed corps. The decision to draw up these lists was taken to make it casier for the first government, which was formed after the National Assembly at Epidavros in 1822, to pay the soldiers' wages. In fact, apart from food, the fighters received nothing until 1927, owing to lack of funds. In 1928 Kapodistrias set up the chiliarchies, complete lists of which survive; they received their pay on a more or less regular basis, while the outstanding wages were to be settled in due course. However, the Regency which took over the governance of the country after Kapodistrias' assassination soon let it be known that it had no intention of discharging past debts.

Needless to say, relatively few veterans ultimately received any sort of disability pension, or joined the Royal Phalanx, or were appointed non-commissioned officers in the new military forces. The names of such men who were natives or simply residents of Fokida (a mere 156 individuals) are recorded in the fifth list.

The final list contains the names of those who lost their lives during the

War of Independence or succumbed to their wounds just after Liberation. Many names are missing, because they were not entered in the records of the Services Committee, for the simple reason that no-one, neither widow nor heir, ever made the application.

In recent years, many researchers have been making use of local archives, in association with the General State Archives, and producing studies on the local history of towns, prefectures, and sometimes even villages. The book under review falls into this category. The lists it publishes increase our knowledge of the history of Fokida and its people during the revolutionary period, and it also provides other scholars with an incentive to engage in even more systematic and thoroughgoing investigations.

ELENI HAÏDIA

Rexhep Qosja, *La Question albanaise*, Fayard 1995, pp. 326.

The Albanian Question, or, to put it in another way, the question of the fate of the Albanians of Kosova in the context of the New Yugoslavia, is the main subject of the latest book, in French, by Rexhep Qosja, the well-known Albanian writer, Professor at the University of Pristina, and member of the Academy of Sciences. Qosja first traces the history of the Albanian people from the second half of the nineteenth century—the time of their first national awakening—to the Balkan Wars and the birth of the Albanian state. From this point onwards, he confines his study to that segment of the Albanian people which remained in the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes to begin with, and Yugoslavia subsequently, the greatest part of which inhabited the province of Kosova and the west of the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

As presented in this book, the subject is not a new one in recent literature. Indeed, there has been a noticeable surge in literary activity on the subject of Kosova in the last five years at least, a fact that is undoubtedly due to the territorial and political realignments that have been taking place in the Balkans during this time. The Albanian side, with Tirana and Pristina as its main production centres, has applied itself to a real publishing blitz with regard to the “drama”, as they term it, experienced by the Albanians, as they live divided among two countries. The purpose of this literary activity is undoubtedly to inform and sensitise world opinion, as is demonstrated, moreover, by the fact that many of the recent publications are written in one of the West European languages (two typical examples being *The Truth on Kosova*,