

GREECE

1992



Ioannina,
Greece

1992
Jonathan at 7 1/2

August  1992

G R E E C E

OUR TRIP TO GREECE WITH LARRY AND YONI - AUGUST 1992

Sid and I were going to meet Larry and Yoni in Athens to spend our holiday together. Elliot decided to stay home and take care of the cats.

Sunday, Aug. 16th: The first leg of our trip to Greece was from Miami to Orlando. The clerk had made an error when she told me we could have 2 carry-ons each on the plane. One carry-on only was allowed for each; since we had three, we put the ~~smallest~~ one into the largest one, and took 2. Both containers are now in the overhead compartments.

On the plane, we realized that we forgot 1. Yoni's candy and 2. to buy insurance. Fortunately we have insurance with Mutual of Omaha for accident insurance. At 7:30 pm we stopped at Orlando for about 1/2 hour before boarding for the flight to Germany - Frankfurt.

On board Delta to Frankfurt: We were hungry. I had a vegetarian dinner consisting of noodle spinach casserole with string beans, whole wheat bread and a spinach salad, with large sliced mushrooms, tomato, peanut butter and a simple cake topped with strawberry jelly. Sid had boneless chicken with rice and string beans, a salad, a roll and a chocolate cake. The meal was good. We slept for awhile. Sid continued to sleep while I watched a funny movie - "My Cousin Vinny". It was silly but funny about two young men ^{who} were accused of murder but only stole a can of tuna. Their cousin Vinny came to their rescue in a bumbling and hilarious way.

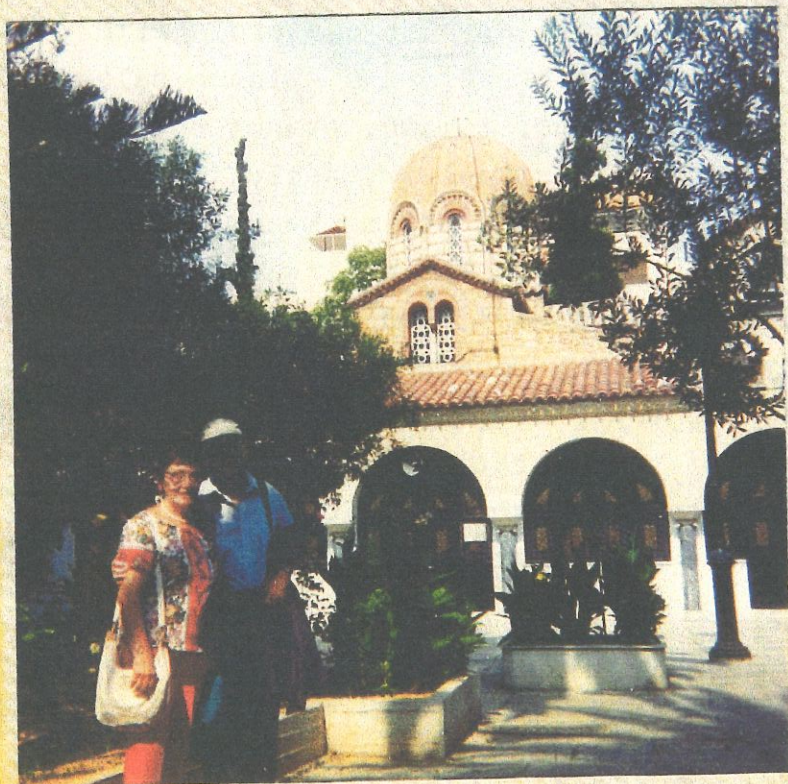
We had orange juice and breakfast, and landed smoothly in Frankfurt on Aug. 17th - Monday.

Monday, Aug. 17, 1992: In Frankfurt we transferred to a 727 to Athens. We waited about an hour and will leave on time for the 2-1/2 hour flight to Athens, Greece. We should arrive at 4:20 p.m. We had a nice meal but weren't very hungry: turkey, carrots & peas, salad, cake.

Meeting with Larry & Yoni: We bought some Greek money and waited at the airport. It was nice seeing their smiling faces as they came up the stairs to the waiting room. We took a cab to the Electra Palace Hotel where we had two adjoining rooms. We ate in the hotel dining room - good food - and went to bed, tired but happy after our long but smooth trip.

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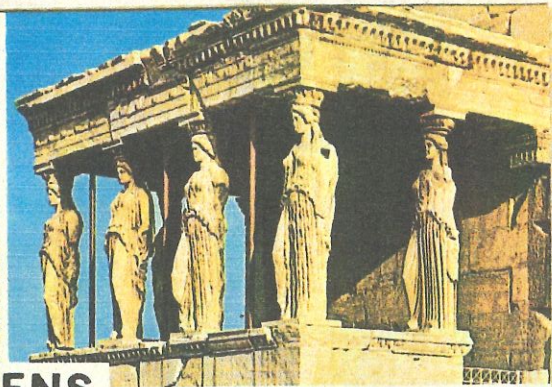
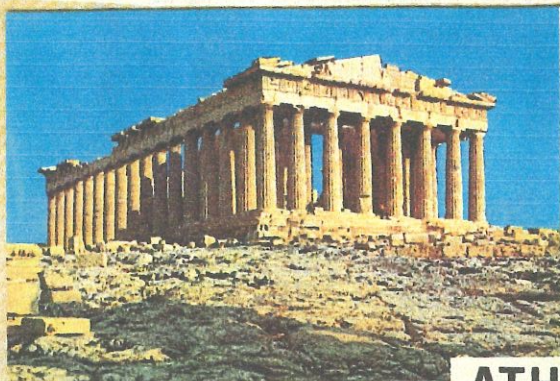
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 1992: Our first day in Athens. We had a good breakfast at the hotel: a buffet of eggs, sausages, salami, ham, cheese, sour cream, fruit, rolls. Dad didn't feel well and stayed in bed and slept while Larry, Yoni and I walked to the nearby park. We played ball, and fed the ducks, returned to the hotel about 2 pm, slept until 5. We all had a good dinner at the hotel: spaghetti, roast veal with potatoes, peas and carrots, salad, hot chocolate and croissants. Sid felt better. Early evening we walked to the PLAKA (an entertainment area). It was crowded. I bought 3 souvenirs: a fan, 2 vases.



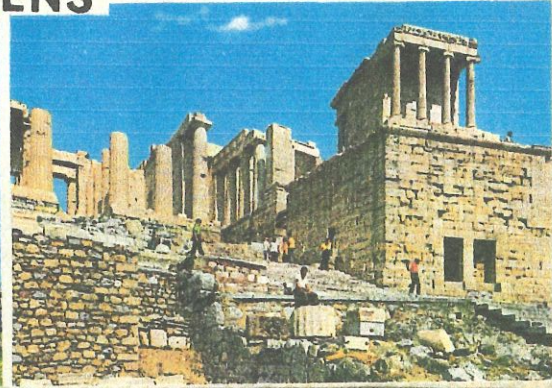
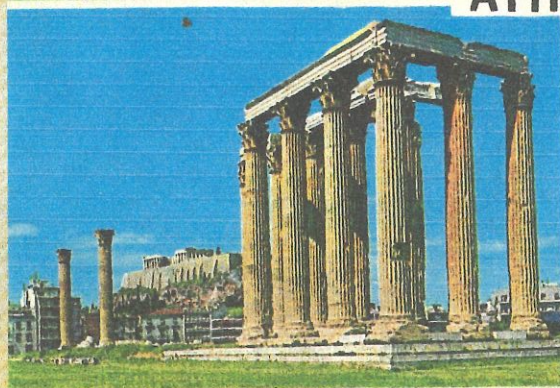
HOTEL ELECTRA PALACE



Wednesday, Aug. 19, 1992: We slept well and awoke in time for a good breakfast, the buffet. We then took a taxi to the ACROPOLIS. We walked to the top and enjoyed the tour. We walked "home" and stopped for Yoni's early dinner of lamb chops, potatoes and carrots. He ate well! We returned to the hotel, rested, and had dinner of tomato soup or French onion soup, grilled meatballs with rice and a chef's salad. It was more than enough for the 3 of us.



ATHENS



ΑΡΧΑΙΟΤΗΤΕΣ
ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ
ΑΚΡ
ΑΚΡΟΠΟΛΗ
Τ.Α.Π.
ΔΡΧ. 1.500
DRS. 1.500
1303421
ΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΕΙΣΟΔΟ

To Έναβο Αγόρι. 480 π.Χ.
The Blond Boy. 480 B.C.

AKP



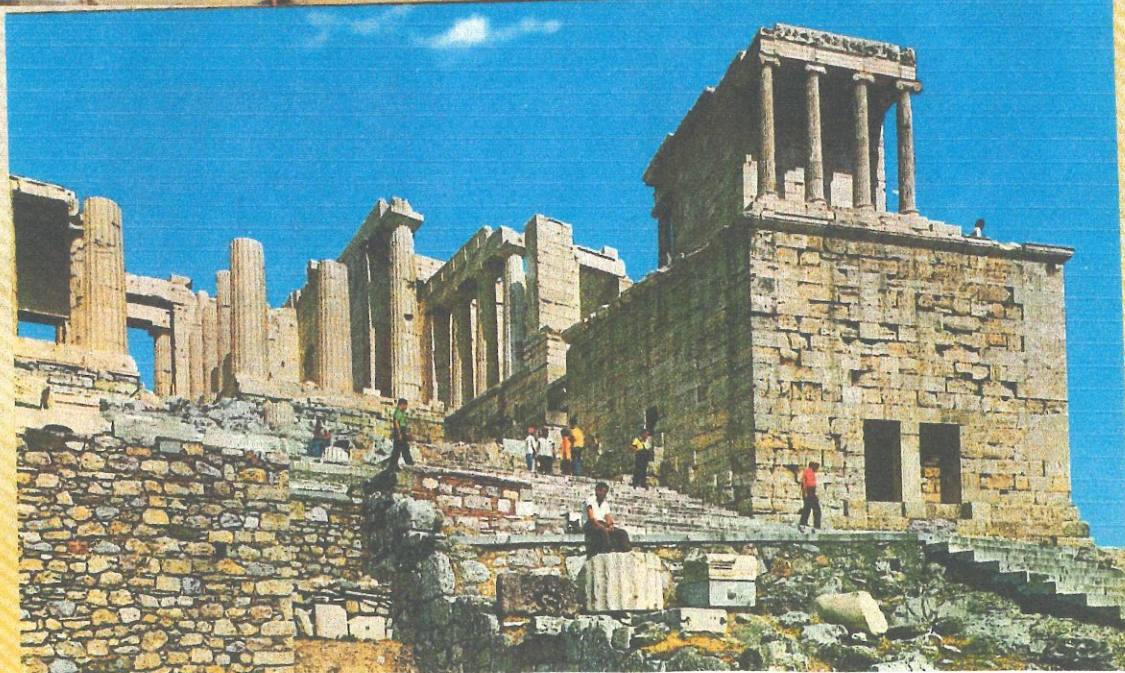
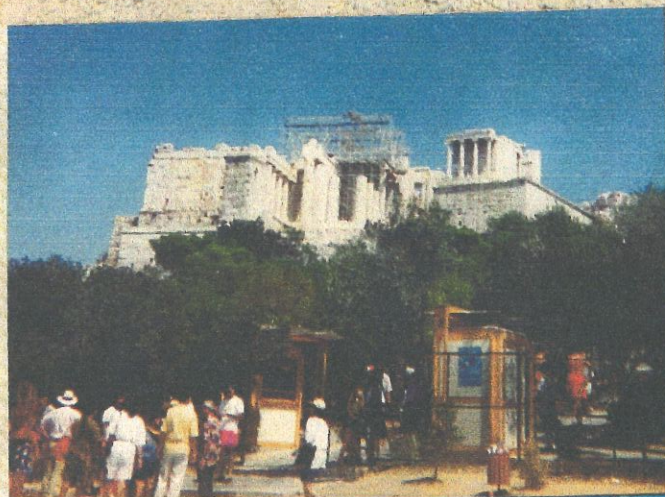
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ACROPOLIS OF ATHENS

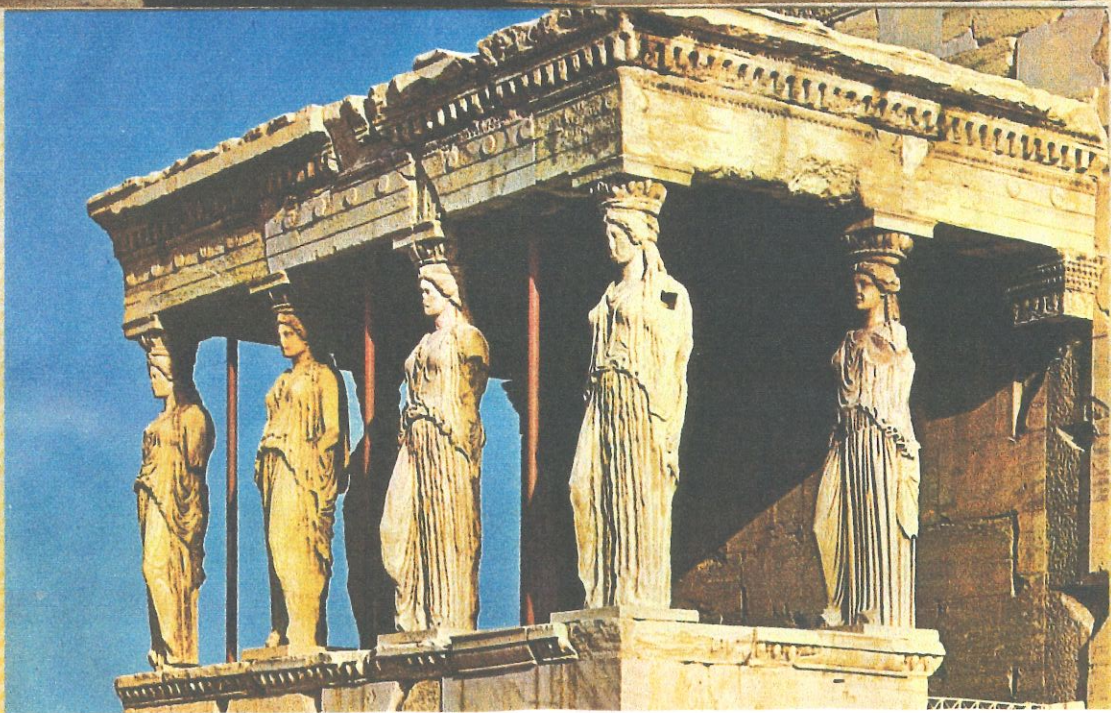
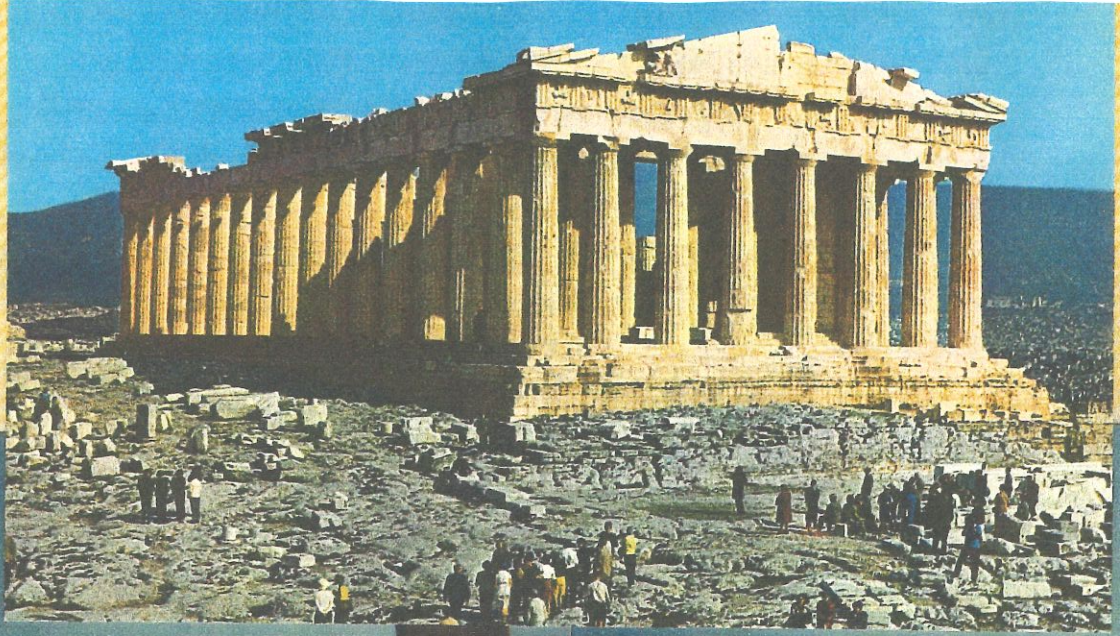
ENTRANCE
TICKET
ΔΡΧ. 1.500
DRS. 1.500

GREEK MONEY - DRACHMAS 1992

100	drachmas	=	60 cents
500	"	=	\$3.00
1000	"	=	\$6.00
5000	"	=	\$30.00

\$10	=	1760	drachmas	or	approx.	1800	dr.
\$20	=	3520	"	"	"	3500	dr.
\$30	=	5280	"	"	"	5300	dr.
\$50	=	8800	"	"	"	9000	dr.





Dora Stratou Dance Troupe, Philopou Hill: Wednesday evening
 we went to see the Dance Troupe which was truly
 delightful. We then returned to the hotel, ready
 for bed after a long and busy day. I bought 2 calendars
 for souvenirs.

ΔΟΡΑ ΣΤΡΑΤΟΥ - DORA STRATOU THEATRE
 ΤΟΥ ΤΗΛ. 92.14.650 PHILOPAPPOU HILL TEL. 92.14.650
 ΑΛΗΝΙΚΟΙ ΧΟΡΟΙ GREEK DANCES

A.Φ.Μ. 90050699

№ 04000



εξεδρα
σειρα
καθισμα
ημερομηνια
Διακεκριμένη Τιμή Εισιτηρίου με ΦΠΑ δρχ. 1400



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Thursday, Aug. 20, 1992: We were all tired after our strenuous day on Wednesday, so after breakfast we returned to our rooms and took naps. Yoni did some math and worked on a book of "comic" story characters (according to their strengths).

About 2 pm, we all went out for a walk. We walked along the Plaka, then to the park, zoo and ducks. We returned to the hotel, rested, took baths, then dressed to eat dinner in a Taverna, the Riga. It was reserved for tours. We started to eat there - hors d'oeuvres and salad, after which there was no service, so we left and ate elsewhere: beef and macaroni, stuffed grape leaves and moussaka. Since we were leaving for Yannina the next morning, we packed and went to bed about midnight.



IOANNINA

Friday, Aug. 21, 1992: We left for Yannina on a 50 minute air flight in a small ATR 42 plane. We arrived about 3 pm and went to our hotel, the Xenia, a beautiful hotel with lovely gardens and balconies.

Dinner isn't served until 8 pm. Sid and Larry are resting; Yoni and I are on the balcony.

During Friday night, Sid was plagued by mosquitoes and didn't sleep well. However, he did sleep during the morning until 11:30 am. I brought up breakfast for all. Larry and Yoni then went to the playground near the outdoor restaurant, while Sid took a bath.

Sat.
Aug. 22:

We planned to walk to the famous LAKE in Yannina, buy stamps and insect repellent. We did not know about the machine in our room which repels mosquitoes, and we'll try it tonight.

I called Rae Dalven's friend, Allegra. She's coming to see us tonight.

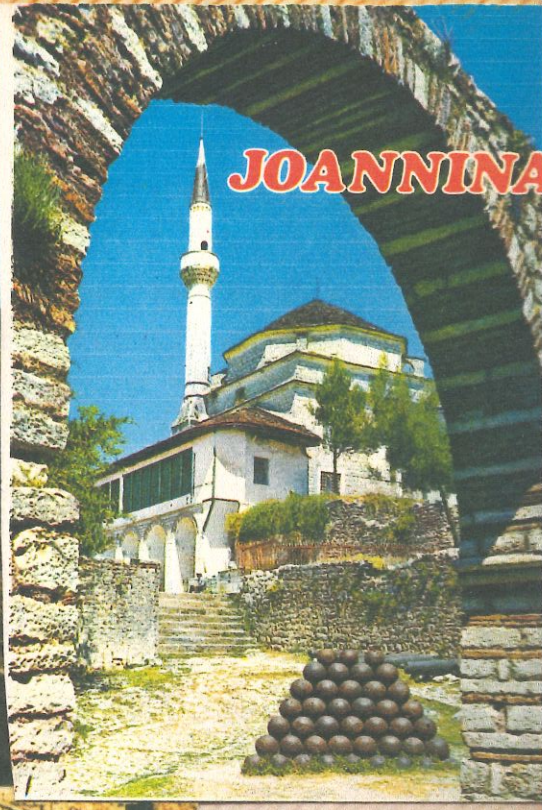
Saturday AM Sid, Larry and Yoni were still asleep when I went down for breakfast. After eating, I brought ^{breakfast} for the 3 of them. The waiter carried the tray, which contained bread, ham, cheese, and peaches. Later, Yoni had lunch at the hotel - meat and potatoes.



IOANNINA

HOTEL XENIA





The Islet. The islet is one of the significant historical centres of the monastic life in Greece from the years of the Ottoman Domain of Epirus until the end of Turkish occupation. Its history starts in 1204 when, after the taking of Constantinople by the Franks, many eminent political and religious men found a sanctuary in Epirus and founded the Doukliche Monastery of Epirus. Many monks used the islet as a shelter.

The monasteries located here are: Philanthropi Monastery, built in 1292, Saint Nicodemus Monastery, Strategopoulos Monastery or Panagias Eleoussas Monastery, built in 1506-1507 on the ruins of an old byzantine church, and Pandeimonas Monastery built in the 17th century, where Ali Pasha was murdered in January, 1822.



ALLEGRA We called Allegra about 8:30 pm. She came to our hotel with her sister Tula and we sat and talked in in the lobby. Aman sitting nearby was listening and we found out he was Mr. Bates' brother, the Victor Bates I used to work with in Greensboro, N. C. This brother knew our family and was my cousin, Jesse Colchamiro's best friend. (He is 7 years younger than Victor Bates. He said he know where my grandfather's shop was located' in Yannina. We planned to go there and visit the Jewish Synagogue together on ~~sunday~~ Monday.

Sunday, Aug. 23, 1992: I washed my hair in the morning and sat on the balcony drying hair in the sun. We had our usual breakfast at the hotel and then spent a little time washing everyone's clothes. We then took a

PERAMA CAVE taxi to see the famous PERAMA CAVES. We just went in a short distance because Dad said he couldn't walk; his feet hurt. He didn't go in at all; we just went a little way. In Perama we had dolmades (stuffed grape leaves) and souvlaki with potatoes and rice. Yoni is eating very well. We then called for a taxi and returned to the hotel where we rested for a couple of hours.

Perama's Cave is the richest in the world in variety of stalactites and stalagmites.

Its entrance was accidentally discovered in 1941 by the village inhabitants who, at that time seeking to protect themselves from the bombardment, had dug to the depth of one small hollow that was there. They found a hole in which they hid. That's the way its entrance was found.

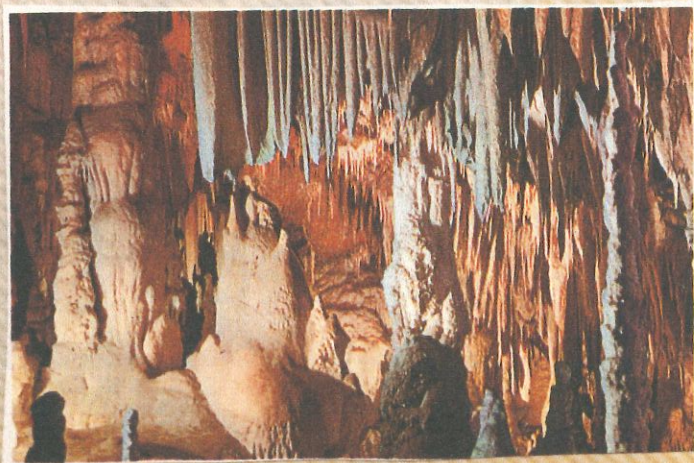
The interior of the cave was discovered and explored by two experts on caves Mr. John and Anna Petrohilou.

The Cave is divided into three parts.

The entrance is the first. The second is the main Cave and the third begins from the chamber of the Dead City.

Below we give the most principal names that experts on Caves gave. We number them and the most suitable imaginary name will correspond in each number.

The Cavern. The Perama cavern is at the Perama village 4 km. to the north of Ioannina. It is considered to be the most remarkable flat cavern in the Balkans. It consists of many chambers full of stalagmites and stalactites and the corridor across it is more than 1 km. long. The famous speleologists Mrs. and Mr. Petrohilos found here teeth and bones of the cave bear, the first to be found in Greece.



3
It was dinner time and we decided to eat around the lake. We took a long walk back to the Lake, saw the large maple tree on Kallari St. near Anexartissias St. where my father's father had his shop long ago. We then walked to Lakeside, ate lamp, banya (okra) and string beans, Greek salad and potatoes.



THE HURRICANE IN MIAMI!

When we returned to the hotel, we received a call from Michele, telling us that Elliot had called her advising that there was a hurricane going on in Miami. We called Elliot at 10:30 pm, then at midnight, and again at 3 am. (Larry made that 1st call himself while we were sleeping.) Elliot said everything was under control; he was remaining in the apartment with the 3 cats, and our neighbor Rae, who was afraid to be alone.

Monday, Aug. 24, 1992: We went with Mr. Bates to visit the synagogue in Yannina. It was quite interesting. This synagogue was 200 years old, but was destroyed by the Germans during World War II. The Sisterhood of Yannina sent \$10,000 and it was repaired in 1984. The President of the Synagogue was saddened to hear of Rae Dalven's death. We left Mr. Bates and wandered about Yannina. We went to the Museum in the Mosque (the Jewish Section) Just before the Museum we went to Allegra's store. She gave us 2 turkish coffee pots as souvenirs. Then we had a lunch of banya, meat and macaroni and stuffed tomatoes. We returned to our hotel after the museum.

By Rabbi Joshua David Kreindler

Iannina

Before going to Greece, I spoke with Dr. Ray Dalven, president of the Sisterhood of Iannina (Jannina) who is a prominent historian of Greek Jewry with particular emphasis on the community of Iannina, and Mrs. Molly Cohen, vice president of the Sisterhood of Iannina, both of whom gave me some valuable historical background on this community. Allegra Matzas, whose father, Joseph owns a housewares shop

was kind enough to direct me to Mr. Sfoulos' son Aris, who showed me around this picturesque town. The town is surrounded by beautiful mountains with a lake near the old part of town with an island in the middle of the lake. The old town of Iannina is surrounded by a wall built by the Turks in the 1500's. The Jews used to live almost exclusively in this "Castro."

The remaining 80 elderly Jews of Iannina live on Josef Eliya Street in an apartment built with funds raised by the Sisterhood of Iannina. Josef Eliya was a brilliant young man who translated part of the Talmud and the entire Song of Songs into Greek. Tragically, he died at age 30. The only remaining synagogue of Iannina is located in the Castro. It is huge and probably accommodated most of Iannina's pre-World War II Jewish population of 1,800 people. The cemetery of Iannina was miraculously left untouched by the Nazis. There are two stones over most graves, one horizontal and one vertical. The preservation of the Castro and synagogue is a common concern of the Jews and Christians of Iannina.



THE LAKE

About 2 pm we decided to walk to the Lake Shore. We saw the CITADEL, a huge wall fortress, and the CASTLE, then took a boat to the ISLAND. We walked around, saw the monasteries, bought souvenirs and returned to the mainland around 5 pm. By the way, no cars are allowed on the ISLAND. On our way back to the hotel, we walked and had dinner along the way: cheese pita, bamyra, rice and veal for Yoni. The food was cold, so we sent back the stuffed peppers and tomatoes.



The Castle. Its building started in 527 A.D. and ended in 1815 by Ali Pasha in the form we can see it nowadays. On the two rocks where the mosques lie today, at that time there was the administrative and religious centre of the whole region during the Byzantine era and the Turkish occupation. On both rocks we can still distinguish the Byzantine towers. The mosque Aslan was built by Aslan Pasha in 1618 to remind people of the Turks' victory over the revolt of Dionysius Scylosophus in September 1611. Beside the mosque is situated the building of the sacred study of the Islamic religion, which was used as the Government House of the Domain of Epirus before the Turkish occupation.

The mosque Fetihej on the acropolis of Its Cale was built in 1597 right on the spot where the archangel Michael's church was. Only four Islamic mosques out of the 18 open under the Turks are preserved nowadays.

In the interior of the Castle there is the synagogue of the Jews who were of the first to inhabit the Castle.



IOANINA

The town of Ioannina has been built at an altitude of 500 m above sea level and 436 km distance from Athens. It is the largest town in Epirus and the capital of the area. The town is located along the shores of a lake, known in ancient times as Pamvotis and renowned for the beauty of its natural surroundings. It has a modern archaeological museum which exhibits finds from all over Epirus. These come from the Classical era, Byzantine and post-Byzantine times. It also houses a notable art gallery. In addition, there is the Municipal Museum housed in the former Aslan Tzami mosque, which contains exhibits of historical and folkloric character, the Folkloric Museum itself, the Archives of the School of Philosophy of the Ioannina University, exhibiting local national costumes, tools and implements etc., as well as the folkloric collection of the Society of Epirus Studies.

Other sites worth seeing are the old parts of the town with the city walls and the picturesque narrow lanes, the Litharitsia, an old structure dating back to the days of Ali Pasha now fully restored and functioning as a cafeteria and restaurant. The Tourist pavilion is built in the local traditional style and stands on a hill offering a splendid view of town with its lake.

There are also the buildings of the area Divisional garrison and the Zosimaia Academy of Studies.

Our town is amphitheatrically situated over lake Pamvotida 500 m. above sea level with a population of 100.000 inhabitants.

We do not have exact written evidence about its foundation. According to the historian Prokopius, the town was founded in 527 A.D. by Justinian. It was occupied by the Normands under Boemundus in 1082. In 1204 it came under the jurisdiction of the domain of Epirus to be successively occupied by the Serb Thomas Prelumbo (1367-1384) and the Italians Izaou Buodelmonti (1385-1441) and Charles I Tocco (1411-1421).

Our town

From 1430 to 1913 the town lies under the Turkish occupation, during which, the period of Ali Pasha is remarkable for its economic and cultural flourishing. On February 21 1913 the town is set free from the Turkish occupation and becomes part-together with the surrounding area, of the greek state.

6 Today Ioannina is commercial centre of the area, as well as one of the most important centres of gold-silversmithery and woodcarving. The jewels and the woodcarved articles made here are characterized by delicacy of the hand-made work and artistic inspiration derived from traditional patterns.

It also has a significant cultural development and here is situated one of the biggest universities of our country. Therefore the economic and cultural prosperity of the town place it to a distinguishable position in Greece.

ON THE XENIA BALCONY



EPIRUS

Epirus occupies the N.W. corner of the Greek peninsula, to the South Albania and is the most mountainous region in Greece. The skyline of the Pindus range forms the natural eastern boundary of the area, separating it from but also linking it with other sections of the country. Beyond the Pindus range lie scores of other large and small mountains, scattered all over the district and leaving only very few plains. To the West stretches the vast expanse of the Ionian Sea with its attractive beaches, lagoons, and river estuaries where thousands of waterfowl thrive.

Although large portions of Epirus have suffered denudation at the hands of mankind, others remain thickly wooded. In fact, some of the largest and most beautiful forests in Greece are to be found in Epirus. The Black Pine (Pinus nigra) is predominant as well as deciduous trees, such as beech and oak, while the higher peaks are clad in the famous Rombola tree, a form of pine peculiar to the Balkan peninsula. The variety of wild flowers which grow in Epirus runs into thousands. Some are quite impressive in appearance, such as the Liliun Candidum or Wild Virgin Lilly as it is called in Greek, the Albanian Lilly the «Poet's Narcissus», Ramonda Serbica and many others.

The fauna is as impressive as the flora and includes, bears, wild boar, wild cat, wild goat and the almost unknown Rissos quadruped plus a number of birds of prey and waterfowl.

Well preserved traditional settlements in Epirus, in their unique local style, serve as live museums of the recent phases in the area's history, covering the years of Ottoman rule and more recent times. When the Turks overran Epirus in the 15th century, certain mountainous districts managed to ensure for themselves a degree of self-rule. This enabled both their economy and culture to flourish. Architecture, especially, made great strides with the construction of large, private mansions, schools, churches, bridges and roads. The arts flourished with a continuation of the genuine Byzantine style of painting, untouched by any western influence. Woodcarving attained a high artistic standard as seen on elaborately carved altar screens which, today, form unique examples of popular culture.

The outstanding feature of these traditional settlements in Epirus is the local grey stone out of which they are built. It is a form of slate found in successive layers of varying thickness. Quarrying and chiselling it is easy, and it is therefore used, not only for building the walls of houses but also for enclosures, floors, courtyards and roofs. In this manner, an entire village blends with the surrounding rocks and forests in an unbroken entity.

During the years of Ottoman rule, the arts and crafts flourished in all forms. Many of the villages such as Sirako, Kalarites, Metsovo, Hionades and the capital, Ioannina itself, grew into noteworthy artistic centres with brisk activity in the establishments of goldsmiths and silversmiths, in gold embroidered woven fabrics, woodcarving, etc. These traditional arts and crafts have carried through to the present day, especially at Ioannina and Metsovo where several notable mastercraftsmen are to be seen in their workshops.

On various dates each summer, village fairs are held all over Epirus. A point is made on these occasions to revive and observe old customs, folk dances and folk songs, of which there is an extensive repertoire. The best known celebration is that of Agia Paraskevi (26th July) which takes place at Metsovo. At this celebration, the inhabitants have to dance in their local national costume. For those interested in ancient drama, there are the theatrical presentations during the Dodoni Festival which takes place in the open-air ancient theatre of Dodoni.

AT THE TABLE XENIA DINING ROOM



THE JEWS OF IOANNINA. BY RAE DALVEN. CADMUS PRESS. 227 PP. \$22. Ioannina, in northwestern Greece, is not so frequently found on American tourist itineraries. Amid wild and craggy mountains, hard by a sprawling lake, this city does not boast the grand stone antiquities celebrated elsewhere. Yet Ioannina possesses an antiquity of another sort—and a living one at that. Here reside the remnants of one of the world's oldest but least-known Jewish communities.

With regional roots possibly dating to Alexander the Great's time, the Romaniote, or Greek-speaking, Jews of Ioannina claim a heritage that began evolving in Byzantium. Possessed of their own ritual—and perhaps Europe's oldest Jewish prayerbook—they represented the heart of Romaniote Jewry and still worship in a Romaniote synagogue. But the Holocaust decimated their ranks and demographics are working against them. *The Jews of Ioannina* represents an attempt to capture the essence of these Romaniotes before they disappear entirely.

In her book Rae Dalven, the daughter of Ioannina-born parents, appears to have compiled every shred and scrap of information extant on her subject. From a history laden with myriad names to a discussion on the celebration of each Jewish holiday; from a dissertation on the Judeo-Greek dialect to a dirge on the World War II deportations, Dalven has been a diligent recorder.

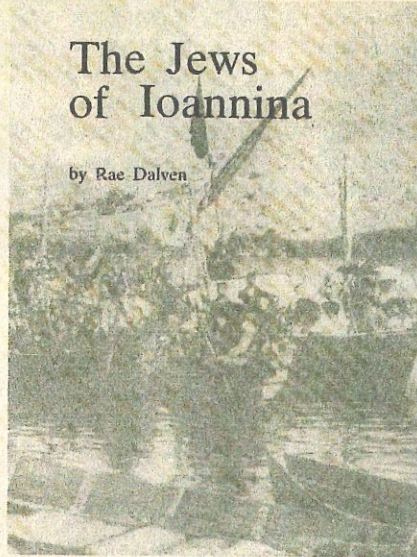
But since she offers more reportage than interpretation, her images of an insular, somewhat naive and un-Western people stand out particularly. In the old world of Ioannina Jewry, professional mourners keened and lacerated themselves around a body laid out in the center of the floor with candles at head and foot. Hence, a local curse: "May I see you in the center of the room." Among various charms employed—though against rabbinical ruling—was a ceremony in which afflicted people rowed across Ioannina's lake and crawled three times through a hollow stone.

In a similar informational vein come other tidbits. When the Alliance

Israelite Universelle school opened in Ioannina in 1904, one of its first requirements was that boys wear regular shoes to class, not wooden sandals. The Judeo-Greek spoken in Ioannina was such an amalgamation of languages that in one sentence—for example, "*Inshallah na s'rikso to taleth,*" which translates literally to "God will-

The Jews of Ioannina

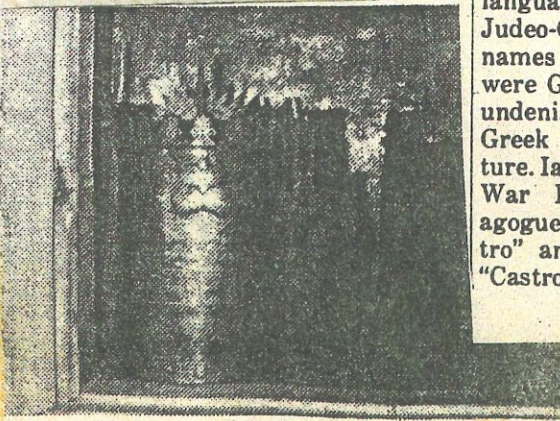
by Rae Dalven



ing, I'll throw a prayer shawl on you," and which means "I'll see you get married"—elements of Arabic, Turkish, Greek and Hebrew might all be incorporated.

Fascinating as such fragments are, however, they are often strung, not woven, together. The result is disconcertingly uneven, with those portions of well-paced narrative—such as the section on the Holocaust—often interrupted by ragged, gotta-get-it-all-in passages. Furthermore, the tone changes often, from thesis-like bluntness to first-person reverie, with several gradations in between. But as a piece of research, a window onto the past, *The Jews of Ioannina* proves a worthy documentary.

—PHYLLIS ELLEN FUNKE



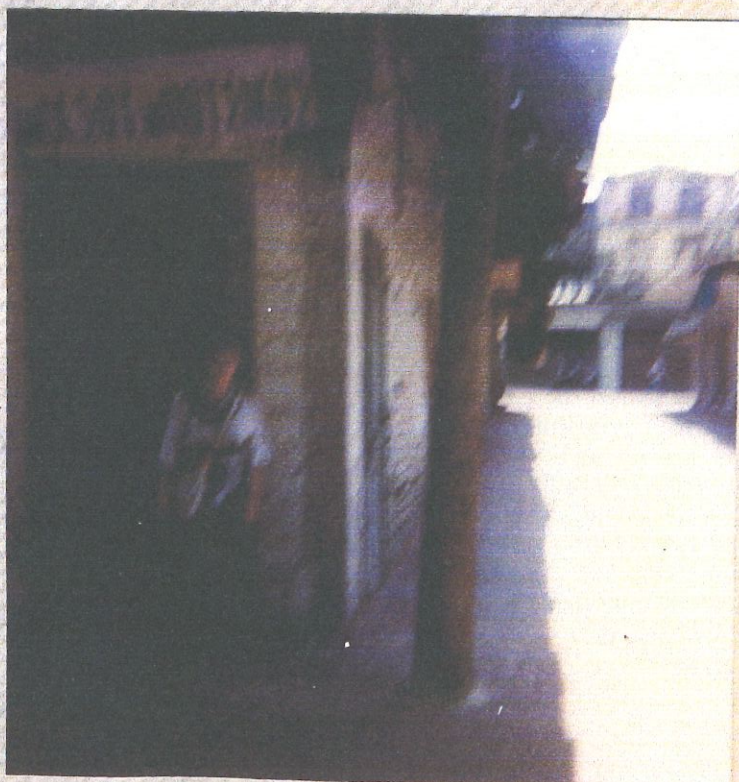
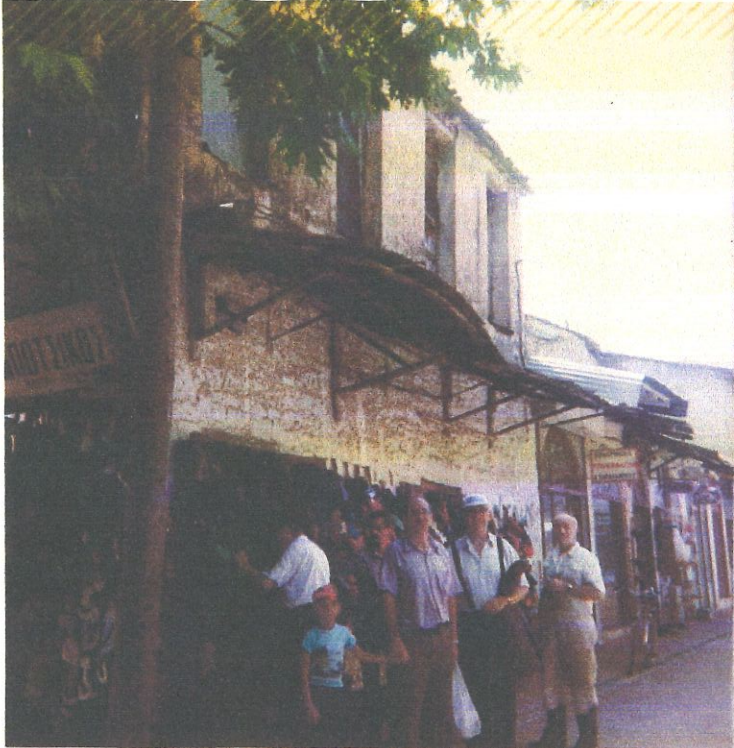
Exterior of Iannina synagogue.

The Jews of Iannina are "Romaniot" Jews, like the Jews of Chalcis. "Romaniot" means the descendants of the Jews of the Byzantine Empire, the Balkans and Asia Minor who kept their customs and language, which was a Judeo-Greek. The family names of Romaniot Jews were Greek and they were undeniably influenced by Greek language and culture. Iannina, before World War II, had four synagogues, two in the "Castro" and two outside the "Castro." There were two

schools, one from Alliance Israelite U. salle and one which more religious ou. They had two Hah. Haham Davos (J. Greek for David). Haham Ben-Tzion (Haham Davos passed one week before the deported the Jews c nina. Some typical of Iannina Jews. Negrin, Cohen, Matz. Nachmias.

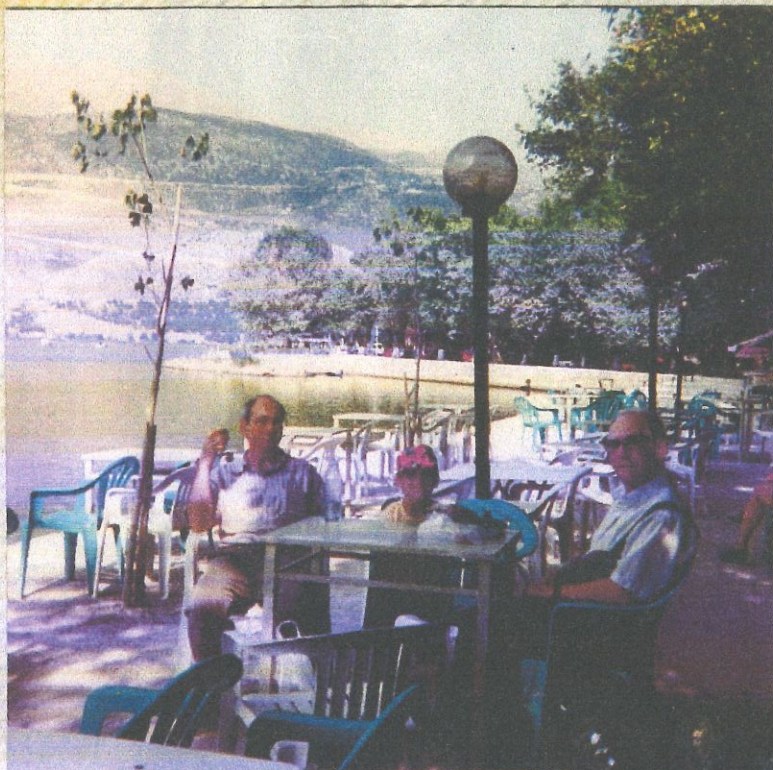


Rae Dalven Book



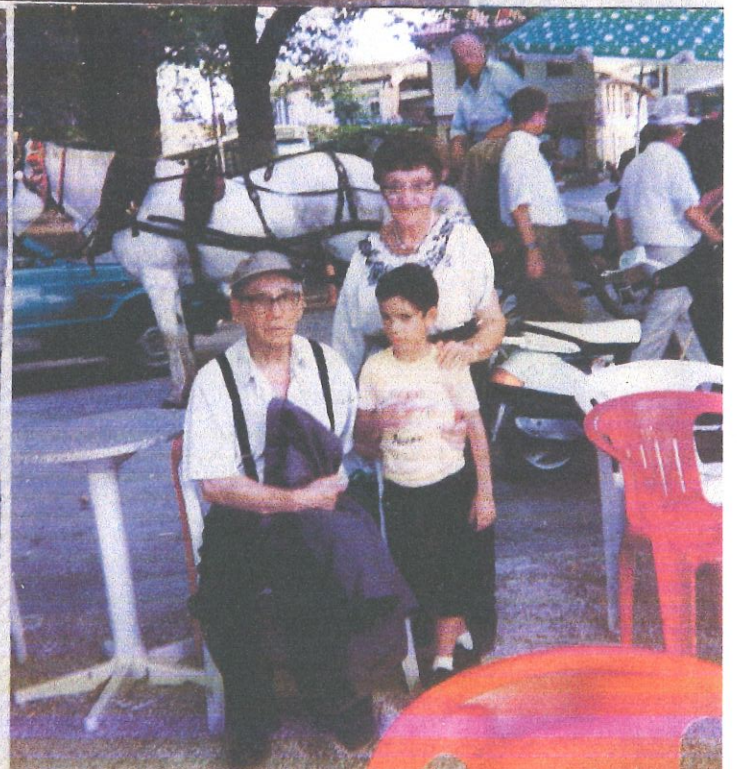
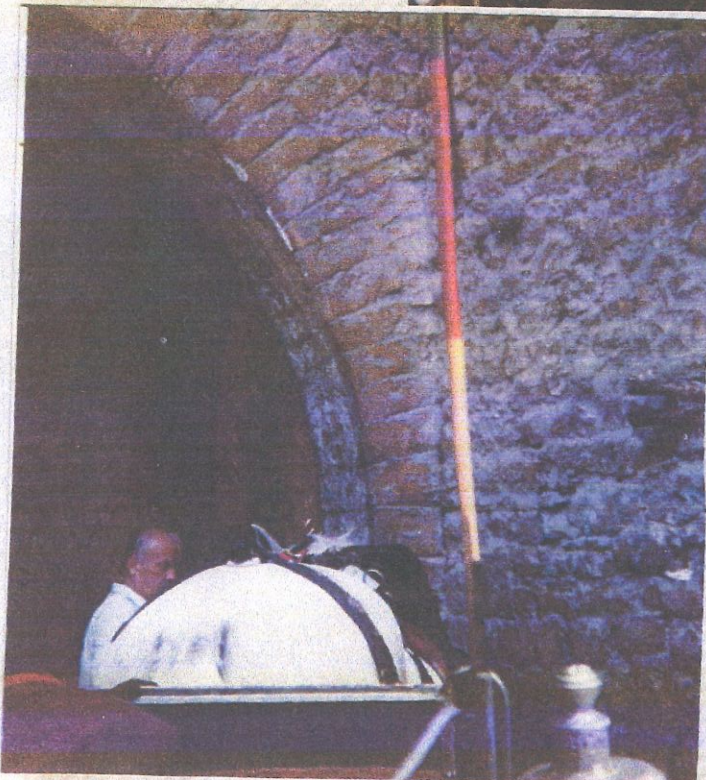
1974

Tuesday, Aug. 25, 1992: On our last day in Yannina, Larry and Yoni came down for breakfast! We went to the post office, but it was jammed! We left and went to the bank to change \$1,000 into drachmas (Greek money). We returned to the hotel, paid our bill and went to our rooms to rest. We took another walk to the lake. Along the way we had lunch; stuffed eggplant, lamb fricasse and Greek salad. Continued on toward the lake, and bought 3 Ioannina mirrors for souvenirs. We sat at the Lake side drank hot chocolate and cold coffee and sprite.

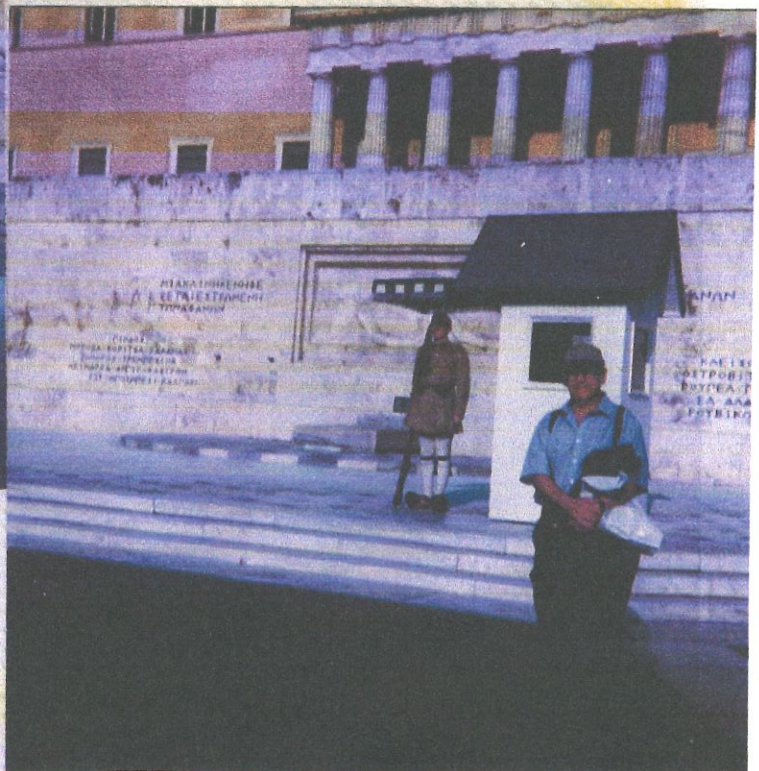


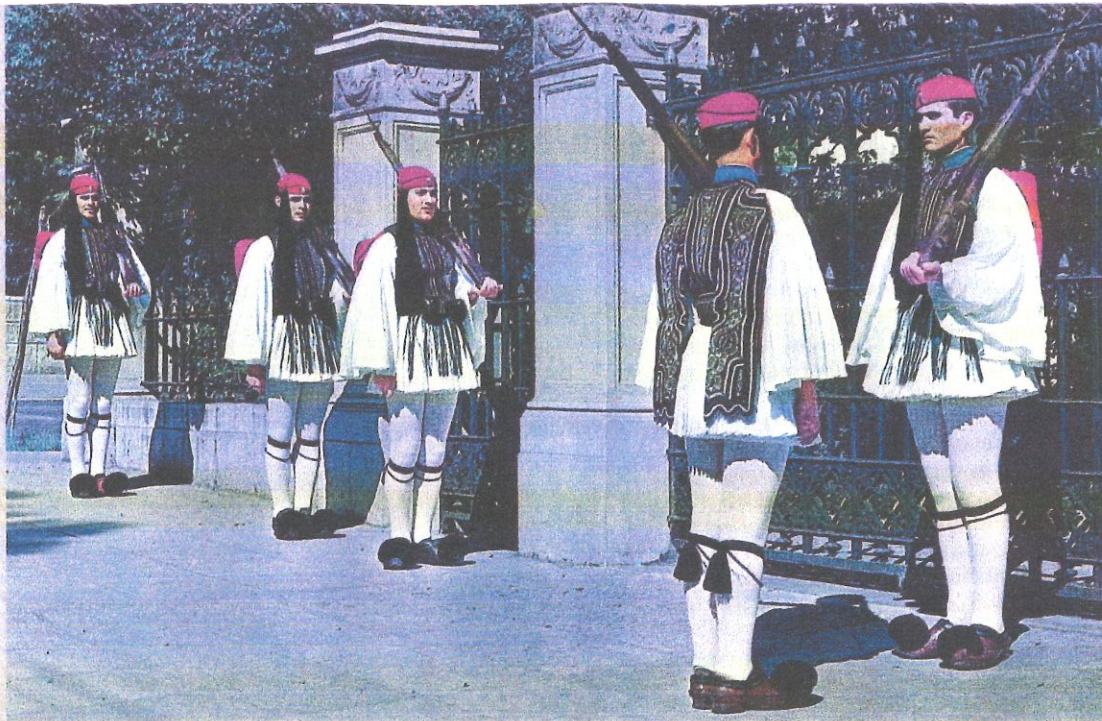


HORSE CART RIDE We took a horse cart ride through the old city. It was fun. Then we took a taxi back to the hotel. After resting we ate pizza and spaghetti nearby, returned to the hotel and talked with Allegra in the lobby. She told us that the Jews lived in Yannina for over 800 years; that the wall was built in the 1300's. We said good-bye and went to bed.

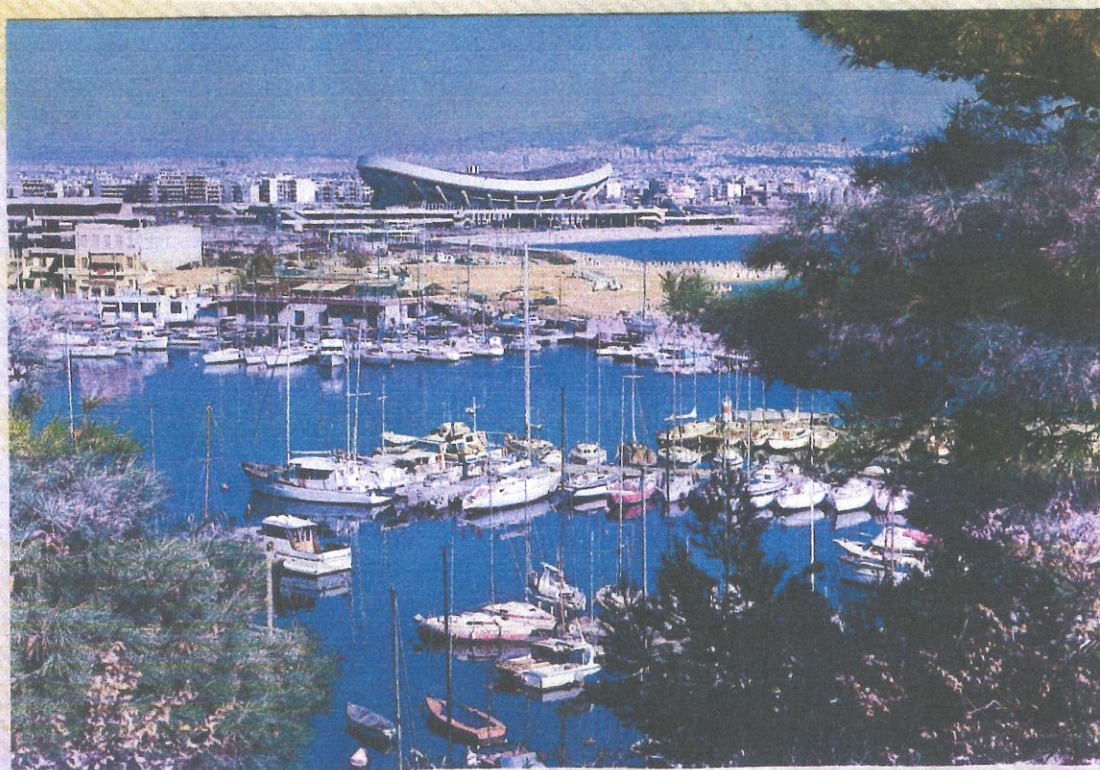


Wednesday, Aug. 26, 1992: We're returning to Athens today at 2:15 pm. While waiting at the Yannina airport, Yoni had a bread and butter toast; Larry had a melted cheese sandwich. We were delayed until 4:20 pm. Dad had a melted cheese sandwich too. Yoni is well behaved, working on his DC Comic large cards assembled in a book. He's putting them in the order of strength. We finally returned to Athens, arriving at 5 pm. We got back to the Electra Palace Hotel and had a nice meal of French onion soup, spaghetti, steamed vegetables, souvlaki with potatoes, string beans, carrots and peas. We called E. Mazza, our cousin, who said he would pick us up at 5:30 pm Thursday. We took a walk along the Plaka, bought little cakes for the Mazzas; had ice cream and baclava, as well as spinach pie. We returned to the hotel and went to bed.





PIRAEUS Thursday, Aug. 27, 1992: We took the train from Athens to Piraeus in the morning. It was a large seaport. We walked along the quai, saw huge ships unloading their wares. We then took a taxi to an area of small sailboats and restaurants. We walked to the nearest station; Yoni played in a playground nearby, then we took the train back to our hotel, to await the arrival of Elias Mazza.

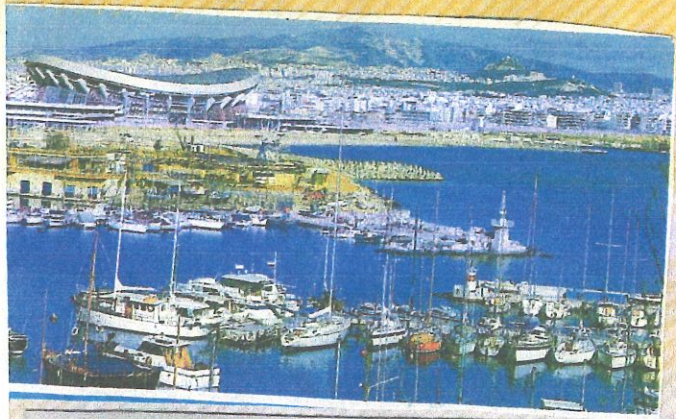


Piraeus

Piraeus is the port of Athens and one of the best known sea hubs of the Mediterranean. Piraeus has been a lively and hospitable port for millennia. It was one of the most important ports of the ancient world, falling into decline after the Peloponnesian war near the end of the 5th century B.C. That was when the Long Walls were destroyed along with the port's coastal fortifications. Those interested in Piraeus's history can visit the Piraeus Archaeological Museum and admire the many fine exhibits from the Hellenistic and Roman periods. Of special interest are the copper statues of Athena of Piraeus, Artemis, and Apollo, as well as the Kallithea monument and the marble statue of Hermes of Kifissia.

Today Piraeus is famed for its intense night life, its pretty and picturesque tavernas, its cultural events, its museums, and naturally its attractive and modern market where the visitor can find good bargains, reasonable prices and quality in whatever he or she may wish to purchase.

Piraeus also hosts the headquarters of many shipping companies. Commercial traffic is heavy and regular passenger lines link Piraeus with the Greek islands and foreign ports throughout the year.



ELIAS MAZZA Elias drove us to his home, gave us a tour of his "summer home" area. He lives on a "peninsula" jutting out to Soustran Point. They offered us klurya and soda, then kalsons baked with eggplant and cheese & egg. Later at 9 pm we ate a very nice dinner of chicken, string beans, potatoes and salad. For dessert we had a beautiful homebaked cake. We talked to his mother, wife, daughters, and to his brother on the phone, (Rafael)

SODNION



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ELIAS S. MATSAS

OFFICES &
WAREHOUSE: 5, ETHNIKIS ANTISTASEOS
142 34 KALOGREZA - ATHENS
TEL. (01) 27 59 006 FAX: (01) 27 58 08

65A Pendelis St
Maroussi, Athens



Mr and Mrs Sid and Terry LANDAU
1935 Park Ave. Apt. 11
Miami Beach,
FLA 33139

U S A

Friday, August 28, 1992: Our last day in Athens! We overslept and missed breakfast at the hotel. We ate out; ham and cheese and tomato sandwiches, russian salad, hot chocolate; and tuna sandwich for Yoni.

THE JEWISH MUSEUM We wanted to visit the Jewish Museum (36 French Consulate Bldg.) We found it, but the door was locked! We were disappointed because we were to meet with a friend of Rae Dalven's. We returned to the hotel and walked up to the swimming pool area (on the roof) with a beautiful view of the Acropolis and Lycabettis. We rested there awhile, then returned to our rooms to pack our things, for our return trip to the U. S. tomorrow. We had a nice supper of souvlaki and potatoes, salad of eggplant, tomato & cucumber & garlic salad, spaghetti and chef's Greek salad. We took a walk, looked for souvenirs & returned to the hotel early. We have to get up at 5:30 AM!

Saturday, August 29, 1992: We took a taxi, that is, only Sid and I were leaving early for the airport, at 6:30 AM. Larry and Yoni remained in Greece until evening, leaving at 7 PM for London.

OUR RETURN HOME

The taxi took us to the airport quickly. There was a long line of carts trying to enter the airport, but we got in OK and checked in. A bus took us to the plane and a smooth trip to Frankfurt. In Frankfurt it was raining. We waited to board Delta 117 to Miami, no bus, we boarded directly from the waiting room.

We returned home safely, and called Larry after a while. We were sorry to part, and missed our holiday companions already.

ΟΙΚΙΑΚΑ

• ΜΑΤΣΑΣ •

ΑΝΕΞΑΡΤΗΣΙΑΣ 18 ΤΗΛ. 27008
ΓΙΑΝΝΙΝΑ

Allegria's store

GRANDPARENTS OF TERRY:-

Matza

Terry's mother, Speranza/came to America as a young girl. Her parents also came to America. When her mother, Grandma Matza died, Grandpa Matza decided to return to Greece to be with his other seven children. He died later in Greece. My older sister, Rae, remembers Spirenza crying as they waved good-bye.

Terry's father, Elias Colchamiro, came to America in the early 1900's. Grandpa Colchamiro remained and died in Greece. Grandma Colchamiro came to America and lived with her daughter, Honula Cohen, Elias' sister. Grandma Colchamiro used to visit the family of Elias and Speranza and she liked to pinch the cheeks of the children. Jesse and Rae used to hide under the bed when they heard her coming...

THE FAMILY TREE OF SPERANZA MATZA, THE MOTHER OF Terry -

There were 3 girls and 5 boys in the Matza family:

Speranza, Serena and Chrissi (the girls)

David, Simontov, Elias, Moshe, and Joe (the boys)

My mother, Speranza, her sister Serena, her brothers David and Joe, all came to America in the early 1900's.

Chrissi came to America with Speranza, but was sent back to Greece because of an eye infection. She & her daughter Anna are dead.

Simontov had two sons, -Sam and Robert Matza

Uncle Elias & Rebecca Matza had three sons, Sam, Haim & David.

Sam, Terry's first cousin, had 2 sons, Elias & Rafael.

This Elias Matza is the 2nd cousin who entertained us in Greece during the summer of 1992.

Uncle Moshe had 3 sons and 1 daughter, Sam, Simotov and Joe, and Esther. We met our first cousins Simontov and Joe in Israel. Simontov has since died. Sam and Esther have also died.

I, Terry, met in person and knew the following relatives:

My aunt Serena, and her children Hy and Yetta, all dead

My uncle David and his children Sam and Jean & sister Louise

My uncle Joe and his children, Lilly and Jennie

My uncle Moshe's two sons in Israel, Simontov & Joe

" " Simontov's son, Robert in ATHENS

I have learned that Haim, Astro, Semantov & Sebatha (David's brother and children died in Germany. Elias' son David is alive in Israel. The 2 girls of my second cousin Elias and Titi and Shirley, and the 2 girls of his brother Raphael are Anneta and Samantha.

Dear Mr and Mrs Landau,

Thank you for your very thoughtful letter of the 10th which, due to the incredibly inefficient post here, has only arrived this AM.

I was deeply saddened by Rae's death though I rather felt it imminent when we met last here in Athens. She was a very interesting friend for me and over the years we developed a sufficiently secure friendship that we were both able to express our cantankerous and impatient natures to each other quite freely - surely the test of any real friendship...though I suppose that I always felt that I had known Rae for years. My first 'contact' with Rae was back in the '50's when she brought out the 'Modern Greek Poets' - a book which I still have after all of these years - and many travels. It was an important book for me as I knew no Greek then at all and it was my first experience with modern Greek literature - at least in translation. (I should explain that my mother was not Greek and my father never attempted to push me in any direction.) Anyway, as you can see, my association with Rae went back a long time and I felt that I owed to her the publication of her book on Ioannina as I knew how much the book meant to her...I was also slightly afraid as the delays kept mounting that in the event that it did come out that she would begin to decline - which apparently is what happened. I rather think that her brother's death helped little in making her feel that she wanted to be around much longer.

I deeply appreciate your letter and the thought that went behind sending it and regret that we were not able to meet when you passed through Athens.

With all good wishes for the High Holidays,

Yours sincerely,


Nicholas Stavroulakis

LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR

Required by the regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, under Act of October 3, 1917, Chapter 101, Section 2053, as amended, and Executive Order of June 16, 1910, Chapter 25, Section 1101, as amended, and Executive Order of June 16, 1910, Chapter 25, Section 1101, as amended, and Executive Order of June 16, 1910, Chapter 25, Section 1101, as amended.

S. S. MOLTKE

sailing from CHERBOURG

1152

No. on List.	NAME IN FULL.	Age.	Sex.	Married or Single.	Calling or Occupation.	Able to Read. Write.	Nationality. Country of last permanent residence.	Race or People.	Last Residence. (Province, City, or Town.)
1	Isaac J. Coen	22	m	m	tailor	yes	Turkey	Hebrew	Jamnia
2	Hanoula	24	f	"	"	"	"	"	"
3	Rachel	4	f	S	"	no	"	"	"
4	Elie Matathia	18	m	y	weaver	yes	"	"	"
5	Esther Capsali	18	f	"	"	no	"	"	"
6	Thomas Konstanty	22	m	"	mechanic	yes	Russia	Russian	Paris
7	do. Czeslaw	23	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
8	Emmanuel P. Boukhar	27	"	"	labourer	"	Greece	Greek	"
9	Charles Bucher	48	"	"	Merchant	"	Switzerland	German	Zurich
10	Samuel David	43	"	"	"	"	U.S.A.	Hebrew	New York

#1 Isaac J. Coen (Isaac Cohen)²² is the husband of
 #2 Hanoula Coen²⁴ Elias Colchamiro's sister
 #3 Rachel Coen^{4 yrs} Hanoula's Isaac's daughter
 #4 - Elie Matathia¹⁸ (Elias Colchamiro) is
 the brother of Hanoula

* Colchamiro (Kathameerak) is a
 nickname of the family

The Coens & Elias Colchamiro came
 together to America on the Moltke
 from Cherbourg on Nov. 25, 1903.

Elias Colchamiro is Jonathan's Great-grandfather

A Correspondence File

Stephanos Rozanis, Director

Letter-writing is a valuable field of literary history, although traditionally there is a dispute between curators and historians about the usefulness of personal correspondence files. Curators feel that letters have a great importance for the museum's archives, since they can serve as a principal source for biographical research, while at least some historians feel that by their nature, letters are nonsystematic and consequently their usefulness is limited. In any case, a literary archive must be a priority for a contemporary museum. Such an archive would contain not only personal correspondence files but also authors' manuscripts, rough drafts, proofs and fair copies.

Thanks to the initiative of Mr. Oscar Calchamiro, our museum acquired twenty nine letters written by the great Greek poet Yannis Ritsos addressed to Rachel Dalven. The correspondence covers the period 1961 - 1978 and contains: seven letters dated 1961; six letters dated 1962; six letters dated 1963; three letters dated 1964; three letters dated 1965; two letters dated 1966; one letter dated 1968 and one letter dated 1978. The

