

Sanitary standards in most places are very low. It is wise to peel all fruit and to avoid milk and milk products entirely. Meats should be ordered well done. Water is generally safe in the cities, but avoid drinking from dirty glasses as trench mouth is prevalent. The local Greek liquor "ouzo" is very strong and deceiving; it can be harmful physically and should not be taken by liberty personnel.

There is a commissary run by JUSMAGG located on the main road connecting Piraeus and Athens about one mile south of Athens on the right hand side of the road on the way toward Athens. Temporary cards for the purchase of products will be issued to any service man who desires to use this facility.

Recommended establishments, among others and remembering the general warning on sanitation, are as follows:

Hotel Grande Bretagne

King George Hotel:

Zonar's

Floca's:

Tameion Snack Bar:

To Tzaki (The Fireplace)

Palia Athinai (Old Athens)

Vrachos (The Rock)

Epta Adelfia (Seven Brothers)

U.S.A.F. Officers' Club:

U.S.A.F. NCO Club:

American Club:

Astir, Glyfada:

Expensive, continental bar, European style food, no floor show, the best hotels in downtown Athens. Restaurants only, liquor served, good quality, fairly expensive, no floor show, popular for a snack or drink.

On the roof of the Tameion Building, American run, American food, pay in dollars, cafeteria style, open only during mission working hours, NOT to be confused with the "Snack Bar" on the street level of the Tameion Building, which is Greek run.

About \$8 per couple for dinner and drinks, nice atmosphere, floor show, dancing, a block from the American Embassy.

Similar in price, gaudier and noisier, good floor show.

Similar in price, much atmosphere, good floor show.

About \$5 per couple for dinner and drinks, combo but no floor show, very Greek, good atmosphere, no dancing.

American run, American food and drinks, no floor show, relatively far from the center of town, inexpensive, obviously not for the tourist.

Very expensive, about \$20 per couple for dinner and drinks, continuous dancing to good bands, plush, featured in movie "Boy on a Dolphin;" reservation needed for weekend nights.

**Churches:** The Greek Orthodox religion is the faith of an overwhelming majority of Greeks, and churches of that faith are numerous throughout the area and visitors are welcome during services. A continuous service is held on Sundays in the Cathedral in Athens (near Constitution Square) beginning about 0730 and ending about 1100. It is the Greek custom to attend for about 45 minutes during this time.

An interdenominational Protestant Church, St. Andrew's American Church, holds weekly services at 1100 during the winter, earlier during the summer. It is located at 66 Sina St., Athens; visitors are welcome. The minister is the Reverend Charles B. Hanna, of the Presbyterian faith. He will be happy to arrange services for naval personnel.

St. Paul's Anglican Church, Philhellen St., Athens, just off Constitution Square, holds Sunday services at 1100, communion at 0800 and 1200.

St. Dennis Roman Catholic Church, 33 Venizelos St., Athens, celebrates Mass Sundays at 0700, 0800, 0900, 1000, 1200 and 1800. St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church, 23 Philomon St., Piraeus, a block from the main post office, celebrates Mass Sundays at 0730, 0830 and 1000.

A Jewish Synagogue, 5 Melideni St., Athens, off Ermou Street, has daily services at 1715, Saturday services at 0730 and 1715.

Christian Science services are held Sundays at 1045 and Wednesdays at 2030 at 54 Roosevelt St., Athens.

The 7206th Air Base Group, based at Ellenikon Air Base, has a Protestant and a Roman Catholic Chaplain attached.

**ATHLETIC FACILITIES:** While there are no indoor gymnasiums in Athens, there are many sports clubs having well-lighted out-door basketball courts and fields suitable for softball, football, and soccer. Greek and American matches may be arranged through the U.S. Embassy, telephone 2245.



biggest single issue in Greek national life today is the Cyprus problem. Enosis - the union of Cyprus with Greece - is the determining factor of present Greek national behavior. In particular, any discussion of this problem should be avoided.

#### SANITATION

Drinking water from the city supply is safe in Athens and Piraeus. Do not drink from wells. All meats and vegetables should be cooked thoroughly. Avoid eating a rare steak (Amebiasis, dysentery, and echinococcus are common in Greece). Milk is not safe and should be boiled before consumed. Dairy products (ice cream, etc.) are generally not safe except those purchased at Snack Bar or Commissary. Venereal disease is prevalent, but the rate is unknown. Adequate prophylaxis measures must be urged. Prevalent diseases in the area include tuberculosis, Vincent's Stomatitis, brucellosis, echinococcus venereal diseases, infectious hepatitis, yellow jaundice, typhoid fever, and non specific gastro-enteritis. Avoid drinking indiscriminately from any cup or glass. Trench-mouth is prevalent in Athens and Piraeus. Sunburn is common, as well as reflection burns. Conjunctivitis is common and Rabies is common in Greece and during the summer months, the incidence increases. Do not pet or play with strange dogs.

#### MAIL

Mail flights should be met at the Ellenikon Air Base by the ship designated as mail coordinator by SOPA. Notice of arrival of mail will be given by flight advisory message about 24 hours in advance. APO223 is located at the air base and ships may use its facilities for the posting of outgoing mail. Mail should be delivered to the APO between 0400 and 2100. Arrangements may be made with the Officer in Charge at telephone 991284. U.S. mail to the United States takes about four days. Mail posted through the Greek system takes about 4 or 5 days and an airmail letter costs about 5 drachma. Personnel should be warned not to accept mail from Greek nationals for posting through the APO systems. Such acceptance is a violation of a Greek law designed to prevent customs and currency violations.

#### CURRENCY

The official rate of exchange is 30 drachma to one U.S. dollar. In accordance with Greek law and COMSERVFORSEXTHFLT instructions, U.S. Dollars and dollar instruments may legally be landed in Greece, provided that such funds are changed into drachma through Greek banks, American Express, or official U.S. change points. During major fleet visits an exchange line will be open at the Fleet Canteen for the benefit of liberty personnel who find themselves in Athens without sufficient drachma.

#### RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Liberty: In accordance with Sixth Fleet Instructions. Leave may be granted to personnel having bona fide relatives within the area when approved by ComSixth-Fleet. Athens is 8 miles from the Piraeus landing, and is considered a good liberty port. Liberty must be regulated to expire at the same time for all ships.

Due to the lack of hotel facilities, leave and overnight liberty will not be permitted except to personnel described above. Dependents of naval personnel MUST make arrangements at least 14 days ahead of expected visits to Athens to insure adequate quarters, and upon arrival, check with the U.S. Naval Attche immediately.

Liberty should expire on the dock NOT LATER THAN 2400 for enlisted personnel. The curfew is no longer in effect but it is difficult, if not impossible, to get transportation after 2400, and available transportation is relatively expensive. Liberty parties must be warned to commence clearing Athens from one to two hours prior to expiration of liberty in order to arrive at the landing in time.

Transportation: Electric trains and busses run between Athens and Piraeus; fare is approximately two drachma (7¢). Service is secured at approximately 2400. Taxis are expensive and are scarce at night. Only meter cabs should be used. All others are illegal. Each meter has a window below the fare window which reads "1" or "2". This indicates whether single or double fare is being paid. Double fare is legal on long trips (e.g., from Piraeus to Athens), but for short trips within the city only single fare should be charged. The number of passengers has no bearing on the fare. The following one-way fares are approximate and should not vary greatly from one meter to the next:

Fleet Landing to King George Hotel, Athens:	60 drachma
Fleet Landing to American Club, Kifissia:	150 drachma
King George Hotel to American Club:	90 drachma
St. George's Bay to King George Hotel:	120 drachma
St. George's Bay to Piraeus:	20 drachma
St. Landings to NCO Club, Glyfada:	



of interest in downtown Athens, including the Acropolis, the Temple of Zeus, the Tomb of Attalos, Olympic Stadium, and a number of other places, costs about \$2. A full day tour, including these same points and an additional trip to the church at Daphni and to Elefsis, with lunch as well, cost about \$5. One day tours outside the Athens area can be arranged.

The relieving of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, in Constitution Square, takes place on Sunday at 1030. This is a colorful ceremony of much interest to the tourist. The guard is rotated weekly among the three services, the Gendarmerie, and the Evzones, who are the King's personal guard. The ceremony is particularly colorful when the Evzones are either relieving or being relieved.

Corinth is about two hours drive west of Athens by way of the newly opened highway, and enroute, passes the wrecked shipyard at Skaramanga, the ancient cities of Eleusis and Megara, and the Corinth Canal, now open to shipping. The Athens and Eleusis full day tour is well worth the expense and time.

Other points of interest in Athens are the Parthenon, the Erechtheum, the Propylaea, the temple of the Wingless Victory, Mars Hill, the Theatre of Dionysos, the Odeon of Herodes Atticus, the Temple of Jupiter, and the Stadium.

Among the many fine museums and libraries available in the Athens Area, the following are perhaps best known:

National Archaeological Museum, 44 Patission St.

Numismatic Museum, Panopistimiou St.

Byzantine Museum, 22 Queen Sophia Blvd.

National Picture Gallery, Patission St.

Benaki Museum, Koumbari St.

Acropolis Museum, on the Acropolis

Stoa of Attalos, below the Acropolis

The Acropolis: On the rock of the Acropolis is open every day from 0800 to sunset. Admission is 10 drachma.

CLUBS AND HOTELS: The best hotels in downtown Athens, as mentioned above are the King George, Grande Bretagne, and Athenee Palace, all of which charge about \$9 per day for double room with bath. The National Hotel, opened in 1955, while not as fancy, is less expensive, clean, and comfortable. Reservations at all hotels should be made at least two weeks in advance. If reservations are not kept, a service charge will be made, usually consisting of one full day's tariff on the accommodations reserved.

The Royal Yacht Club in Piraeus extends privileges to officers. The view of Phaleron is excellent, and prices are reasonable.

During large fleet visits a Fleet Canteen is established, its location varying from visit to visit. It is normally operated during liberty hours daily. Free transportation to and from the landing is provided. The canteen offers free refreshments (coffee, sandwiches, etc.), dancing, games, shopping guidance, postal facilities, and information. Hostesses will be present. Personnel and supplies for the canteen must be furnished by fleet units present. A request for required items will be made prior to arrival by message to the prospective SOPA. Ships furnishing supplies also furnish rated cook and messmen on the days supplies are furnished. White uniforms must be worn by men working at the canteen. Personnel should deliver supplies to the canteen one hour prior to liberty. A senior officer in Navy

Section JUSMAGG, supervises operation of the canteen and will make recommendations to SOPA on its efficient operation, account for supplies furnished and consumed, and recommend modifications in daily supplies to prevent waste. Music for dancing must be supplied by the fleet.

BEACHES: Swimming is not safe within five miles of Piraeus because of raw sewage. The nearest safe swimming areas are south of the Air Base in Glyfada and Kavouri. Swimming at Sounion is safe. Undressing behind a towel is common practice. A good beach called Astir Beach is located 2 miles south of Ellinikon Air Field.

GENERAL INFORMATION: About 5500 Americans live in the Athens Area. They are, for the most part, members of the State Department, armed services, and their dependents. Some American firms maintain offices in Athens.

The American Mission for Aid to Greece (AMAG) consists of the Embassy, the Economic Cooperation Administration, and the Joint U.S. Military Air Group, Greece. The Chief of AMAG is the U.S. Ambassador. The Director of ECA holds the rank of minister. Chief JUSMAGG is an army major general.

JUSMAGG consists of a headquarters section, and a section for each of the services, all of them headed by an officer of the rank of colonel/captain. ALUSNA and other service attaches are members of the Ambassador's staff and not a part of



... typically Greek and reason... Prices are... Most of...  
... operate at low profits.

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|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Athens Fur Shop            | 3 Nikis St.             |
| Cretan Double Axe Shop     | 18 St. George Square    |
| Hellenike Laikitchmis      | 4 Jan Smuts             |
| Diaskesmotake              | 5 Churchill             |
| Skyres                     | 3 Georgiou Souri        |
| Conneisseur (ceramics)     | 10 University           |
| Jeannides (silver)         | 12 Churchill            |
| Martines (antiques)        | 50 Pandressou           |
| Sistovares Fur Shop        | 4 Mermus                |
| Sklaves (crystal)          | 18 Venizelou            |
| Nisietia (silver)          | 9 Churchill             |
| Majestic Wrought Iron Shop | Tameion Building Arcade |

There is a good book store located in Constitution Square next to American Express. American magazines and newspapers may be purchased at the kiosks along Venizelou in front of the Tameion Building.

Any unfair prices or irregularities should be reported to Industry Division, ECA, Tameion Building, Athens.