

"O inimigo, como os chamamos a guerrilha, como a bbc os chama": a dekemvriana grega segundo a perspectiva de soldados britânicos (1944) [

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text (article)

Analítica

We are going to deal with an emblematic aspect of the end of the Second World War: the polemic arisen among the british society for their government's intervention in the greek civil war. During a specific episode of the war, the Dekemvriana (December, 1944), the government's politics were heavly criticized by the british press which considered the greek left wing guerrillas - that were fighting against the London supported hellenic monarchy - as a legitimate popular movement. Different opinions can be found in a compilation of letters written by british soldiers in Greece, which prime minister Winston Churchill distributed among his War Cabinet's colleagues. We analyzed thoes letters in order to comprehend how some soldiers disagreed with the journalistic coverage of the greek war. Our sources indicate that there were, among the soldiers, the idea that their government's actions in Greece were correct, and that the press distortet the facts when it portrayed as heroes a guerrilla movement considered by the soldiers as violent, anarchic and authoritarian. We hope this paper casts some light on the complex debates on one of the most important moments of the declining world power of Britain

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