

**“PATRIOTS”**

**MISSION EUROPE**

**Cephalonia, island of the dawn**





MARSHAL BADOGLIO HAS SIGNED THE ARMISTICE!

- ALL ACTS OF HOSTILITY AGAINST THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN TROOPS BY ITALIAN TROOPS MUST CEASE EVERYWHERE. THEY WILL, HOWEVER, OPPOSE ANY ATTACKS BY ANY OTHER SOURCE...

DOES THAT MEAN WE CAN GO BACK HOME, NICOLA?!



GUYS, ITALY HAS SIGNED THE ARMISTICE!

BACK HOME AT LAST!

I'LL GO AND INFORM GENERAL GANDIN STRAIGHTAWAY.



IS THAT GENERAL GANDIN'S TENT?

YES, IT IS.



CAN I COME IN, GENERAL?



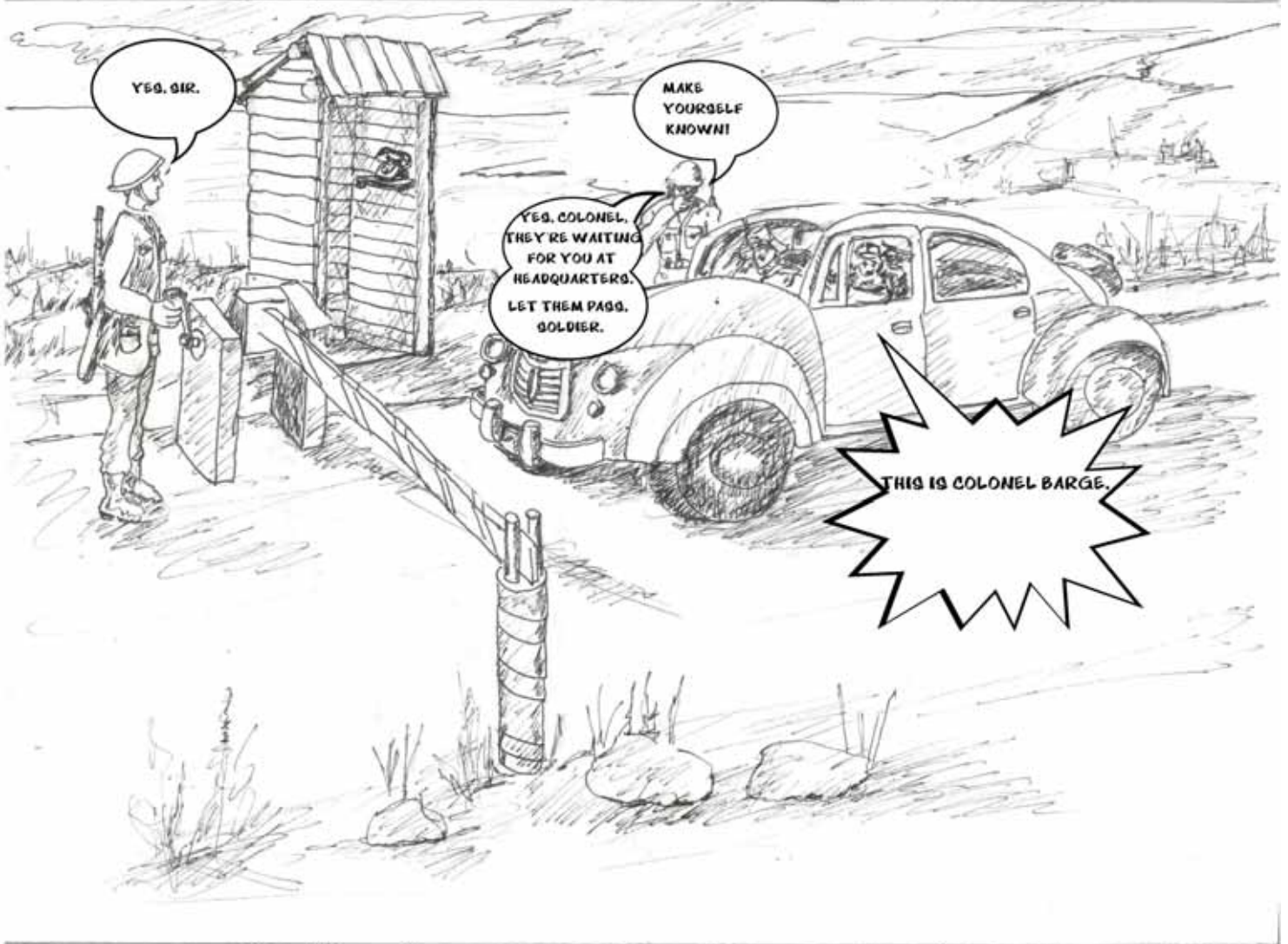
THANK YOU, YOU CAN GO



GENERAL, MARSHAL BADOGLIO HAS SIGNED THE ARMISTICE!

THE RADIO REPORTED THE NEWS.

ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF ARGOSTOLI THE ACQUI DIVISION SETS UP ITS HEADQUARTERS. THIS IS WHERE GENERAL GANDINI WILL MEET THE GERMAN COLONEL BARGE, ENGAGING IN NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE SURRENDER OF THE ITALIAN SOLDIERS. BY NOW CONSIDERED ENEMIES OF THE GERMANS BECAUSE OF THE ARMISTICE SIGNED WITH THE ANGLO-AMERICAN ALLIES, GENERAL GANDINI IS FACING THE HARDEST CHOICE OF HIS LIFE.





HI AURORA. COULD YOU HAVE A LOOK AT THE BIG ROOM? GENERAL GANDIN WILL MEET COLONEL BARGE FOR AN IMPORTANT MEETING IN A WHILE.

NICO, WHEN WILL YOU TAKE ME WITH YOU TO ITALY?

ALL RIGHT, LOVE.

AURORA, AS SOON AS THIS DAMN WAR IS FINISHED, WE'LL GO LIVE ON MY FARM IN PUGLIA.



BE CAREFUL, NICO! I'VE GOT AN UNPLEASANT SENSE OF FOREBODING.

DON'T WORRY, LOVE, GENERAL GANDIN KNOWS HIS BUSINESS.



OKAY LIEUTENANT, LET HIM IN.

GENERAL GANDIN, COLONEL BARGE HAS JUST ARRIVED.



WELCOME COLONEL BARGE! PLEASE, TAKE A SEAT.

HEIL GENERAL GANDINI!

IN THE GERMAN MILITARY MILIEU YOU ARE KNOWN AS A PERSON OF GREAT PRESTIGE. NONETHELESS, DUE TO THE POLITICAL LINE TAKEN BY ITALY, I WAS ORDERED TO CONFISCATE YOUR WEAPONS IN VALIANOS SQUARE.

COLONEL, BY DOING SO, ALL MY MEN WOULD LOSE THEIR HONOUR!



YOU UNDERSTAND THAT I NEED AN ANSWER.

COLONEL, GIVE ME UNTIL TOMORROW.



SERGEANT, PUT ME THROUGH TO MUNICH.

STRAIGHTAWAY, SIR.

MUNICH



unsere letzte Hoffnung  
HITLER

HELLO, GENERAL?!

HITLER'S PARATROOPERS GET ME FREE FROM GRAN GASSO.

I'M ASKING YOU TO MEET ME HERE IN MUNICH. I'M GOING TO OFFER YOU A KEY POSITION IN THE RISING REPUBLIC OF SALO.

GOOD LUCK, THEN...

CEPHALONIA



HELLO!

I'M GLAD FOR YOU, DUCS.

THANK YOU, DUCS! HOWEVER, I CAN'T ACCEPT YOUR OFFER. I PLEDGED ALLEGIANCE TO THE KING, SO I CAN'T ABANDON MY MEN.

THANK YOU, I'LL NEED IT.

BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 13TH AND 14TH, THE PATRIOTS OF THE ACQUA DIVISION IN A POLL UNANIMOUSLY DECIDE NOT TO HAND OVER ARMS TO THE GERMANS. INSTEAD THEY WILL FIGHT FOR THE HONOUR OF THE FATHERLAND.

TO THAT POINT, ADOLF HITLER ORDERS GENERAL LANZ THAT NO PRISONERS ARE TO BE TAKEN IN CASE OF SURRENDER.

WITH THE ARRIVAL OF MORE GERMAN SOLDIERS ON THE ISLAND AND OWING TO THE EFFECTIVE ATTACKS OF THE GERMAN STUKAS, CLASHES BECOME FIERCE.



CAPTAIN, ARE THERE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE 11TH CORPS?

I HAVE UNTIL TOMORROW TO GIVE BARGE MY ANSWER. MEANWHILE, GATHER ALL THE MEN.

YES, SIR.

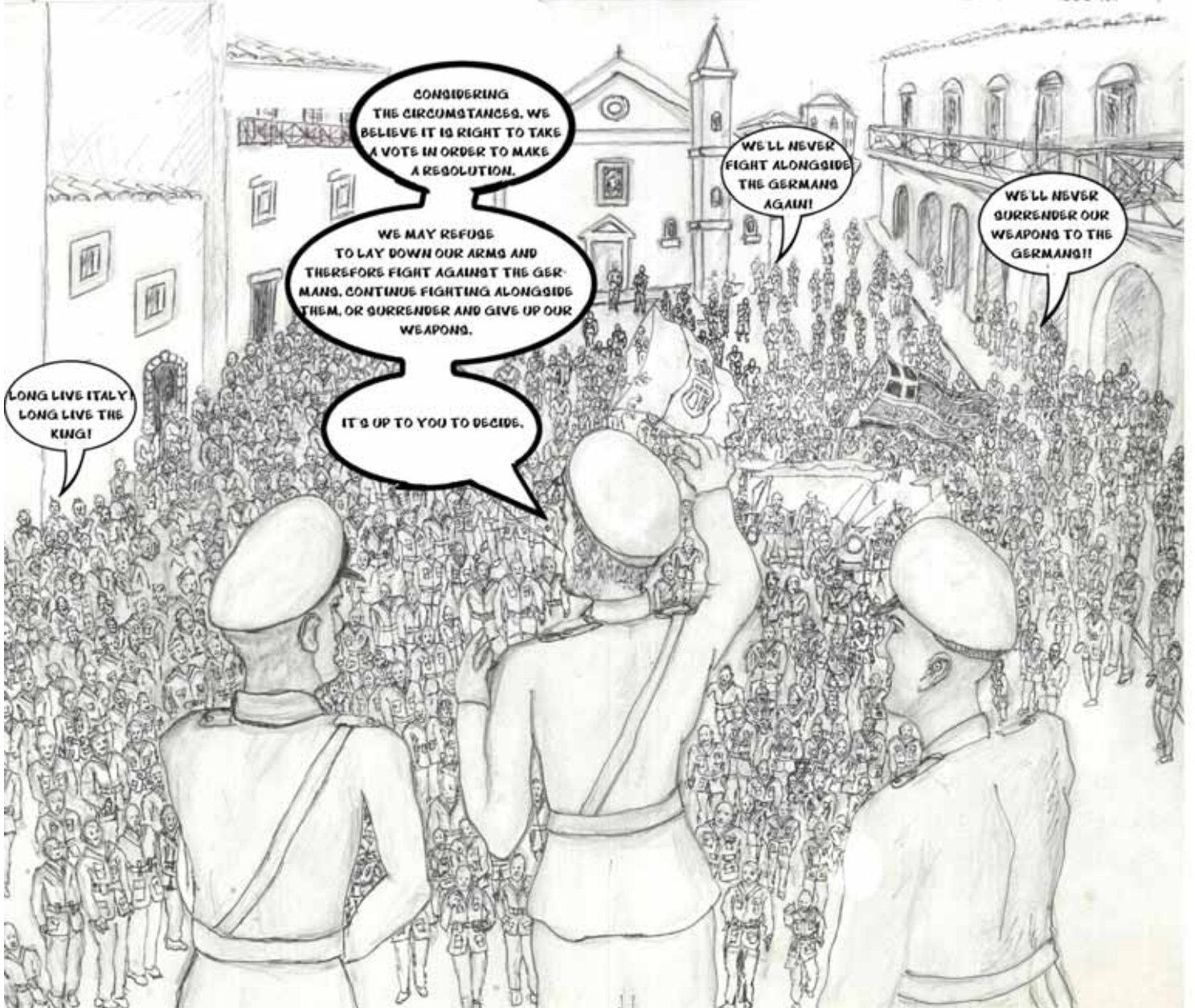
NOTHING DEFINITE, BUT GENERAL VECCHIA RELI SENT US INSTRUCTIONS AUTHORIZING A COUNTEROFFENSIVE IN CASE OUR TROOPS ARE ATTACKED.



GENERAL GANDIN, I BELIEVE WE OUGHT TO DECIDE ABOUT OUR SOLDIERS' FATE HERE IN CEPHALONIA.

I AGREE... WE'LL LEAVE IT DIRECTLY TO OUR SOLDIERS TO DECIDE. CAPTAIN, WARN ALL THE UNITS.

GENERAL GHERZI SINCE THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ARMISTICE WE'VE HAD NO EXPLICIT ORDERS FROM THE HIGH COMMAND...



CONSIDERING THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE BELIEVE IT IS RIGHT TO TAKE A VOTE IN ORDER TO MAKE A RESOLUTION.

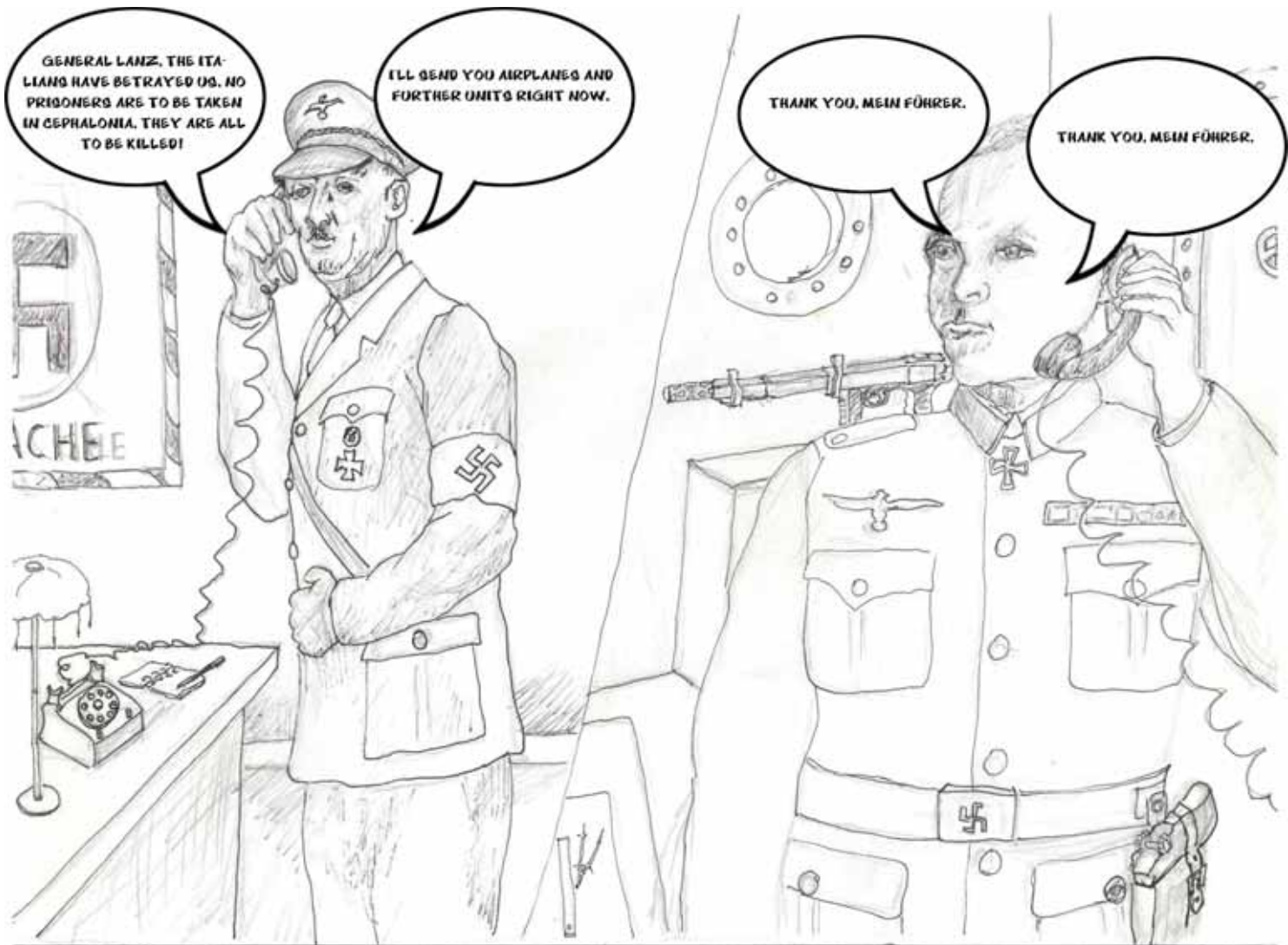
WE'LL NEVER FIGHT ALONGSIDE THE GERMANS AGAIN!

WE'LL NEVER SURRENDER OUR WEAPONS TO THE GERMANS!!

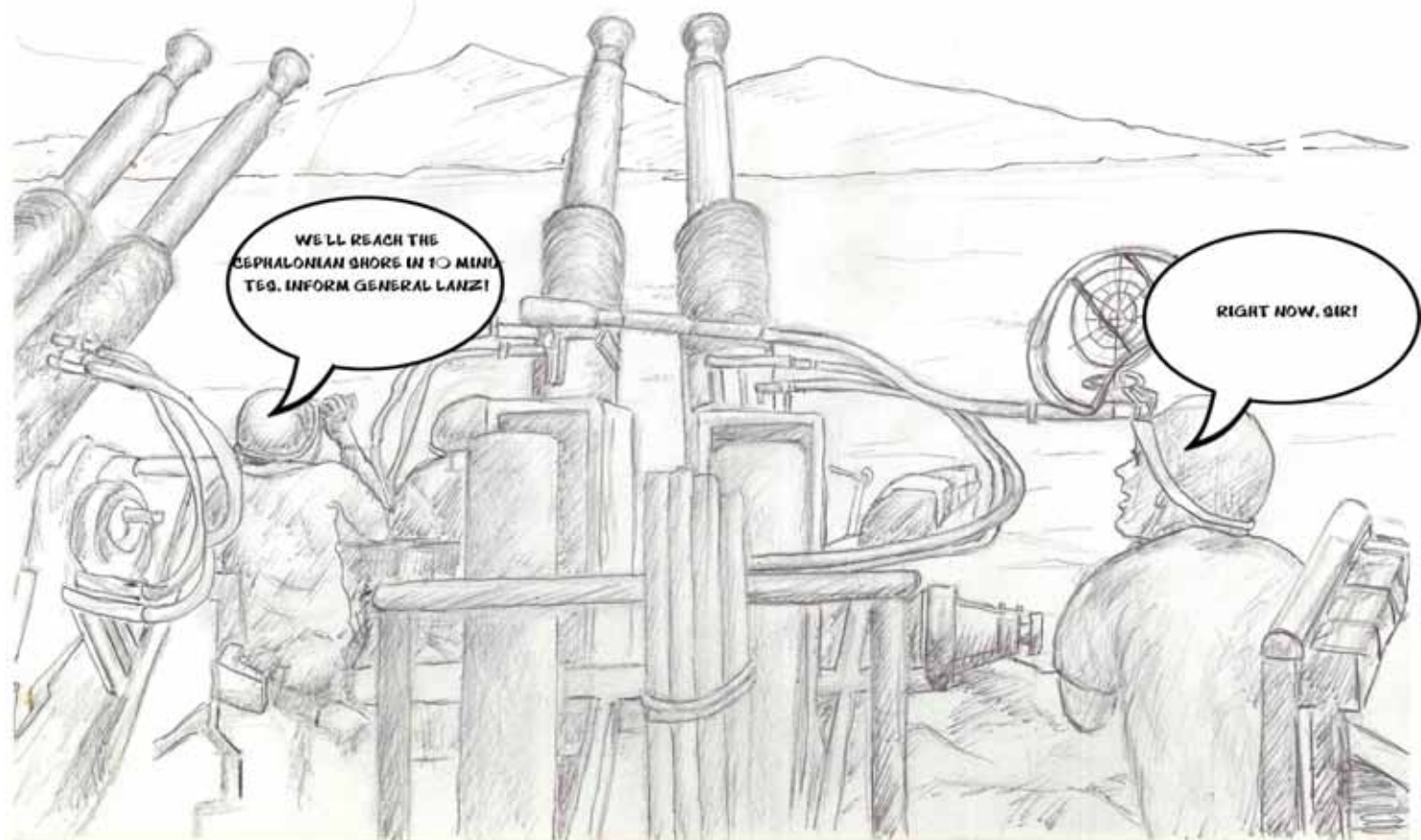
WE MAY REFUSE TO LAY DOWN OUR ARMS AND THEREFORE FIGHT AGAINST THE GERMANS, CONTINUE FIGHTING ALONGSIDE THEM, OR SURRENDER AND GIVE UP OUR WEAPONS.

LONG LIVE ITALY!  
LONG LIVE THE KING!

IT'S UP TO YOU TO DECIDE.



LANDING OF THE WEHRMACHT SUPPLIES AT ARGOSTOLI

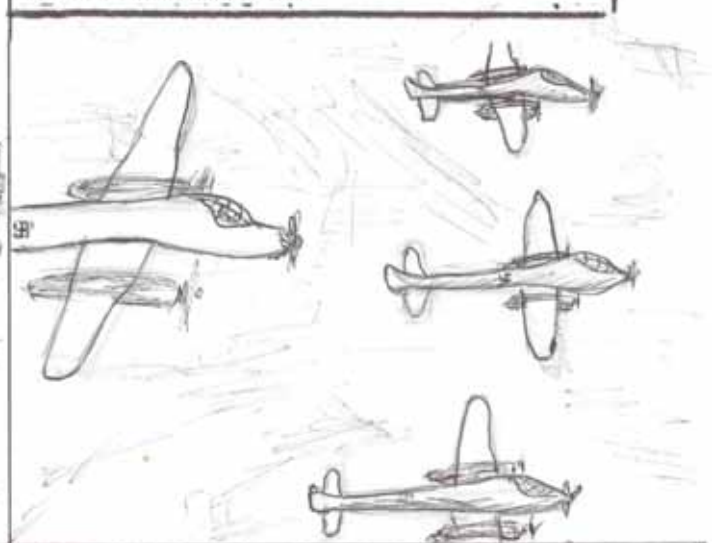




HALF AN HOUR LATER...

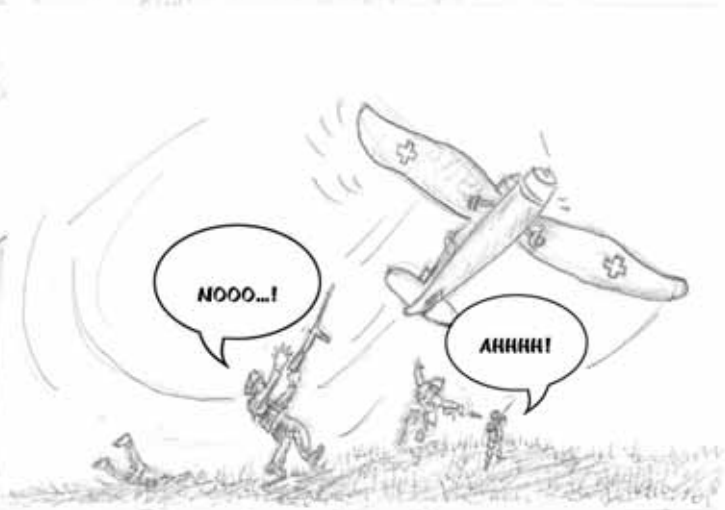
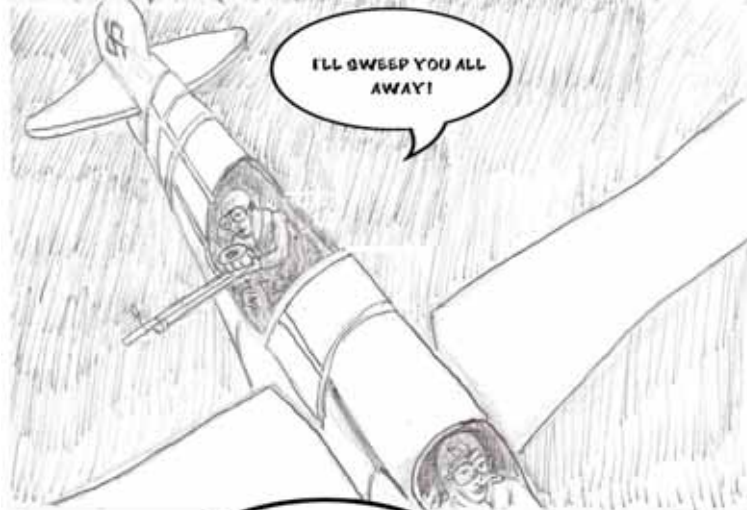
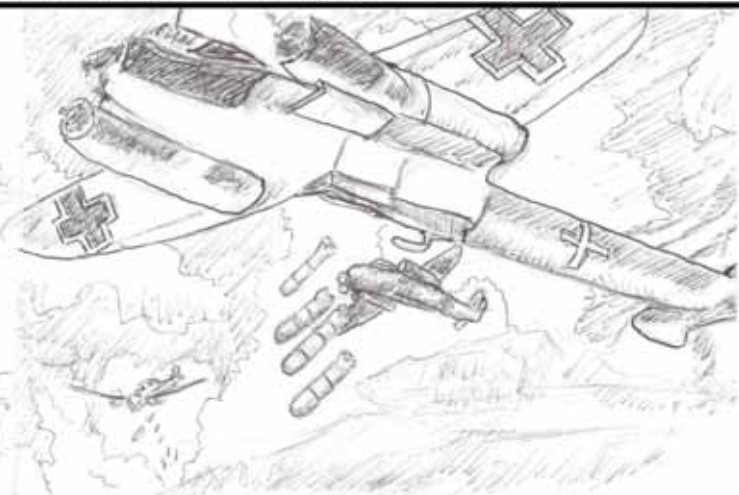


THE STUKAS THREAT COMING UP TOGETHER  
WITH THE WARSHIPS.

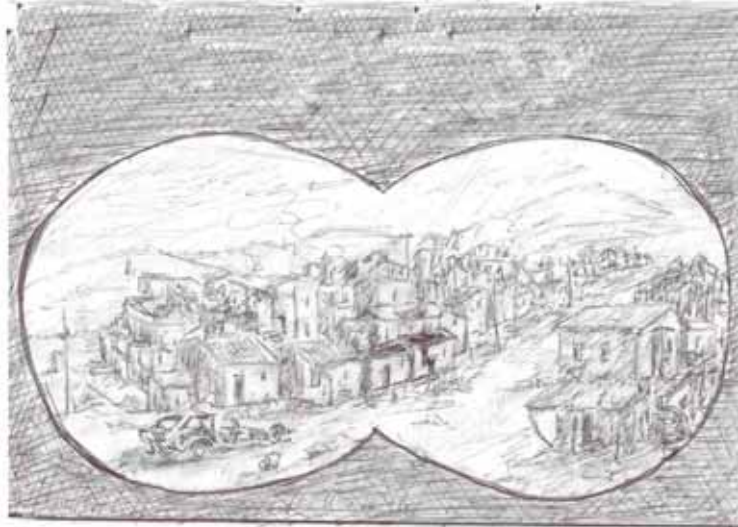
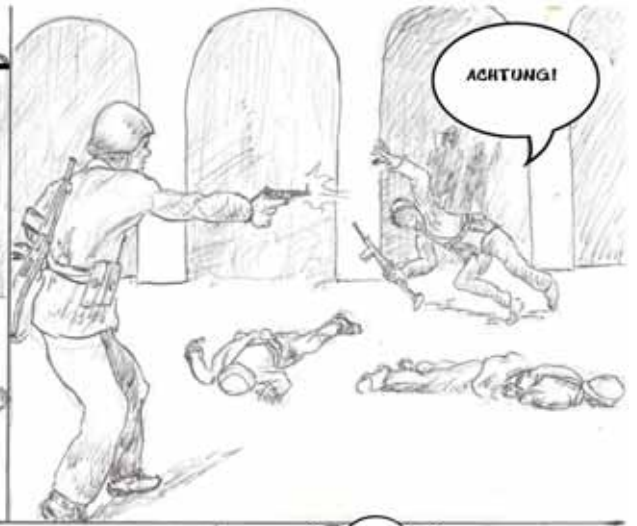




BECAUSE SUPPLIES CAME BY SEA AND OWING TO THE STUKAS AIR SUPPORT, THE GERMANS GAIN THE UPPER HAND IN CLASHES.



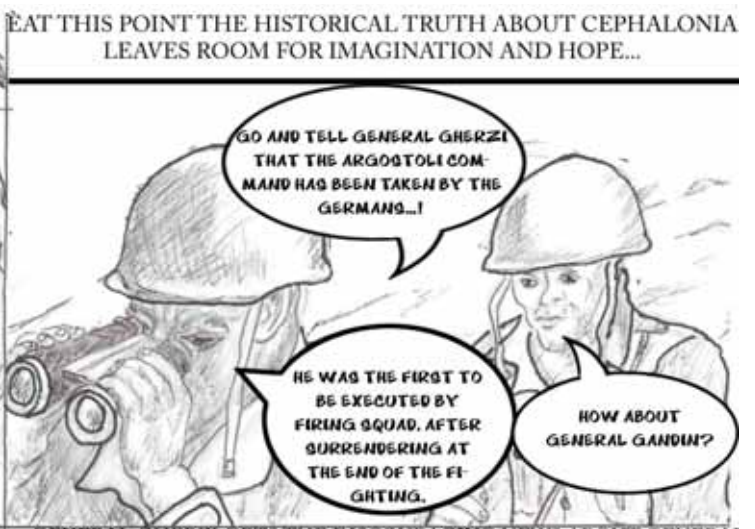
ARGOSTOLI CITY CENTRE, VALIANOS SQUARE.





GUT, NOW WE MUST DROP THE LEAFLETS ALL OVER THE ISLAND!

TWO ITALIAN SOLDIERS READING THE LEAFLETS THROWN FROM THE GERMAN AIRCRAFTS.



GO AND TELL GENERAL GHERZI THAT THE ARGOSTOLI COMMAND HAS BEEN TAKEN BY THE GERMANS...!

HE WAS THE FIRST TO BE EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD, AFTER SURRENDERING AT THE END OF THE FIGHTING.

HOW ABOUT GENERAL GANDIN?

GENERAL GHERZI GETS THE DISCOURAGING NEWS ABOUT GENERAL GANDIN'S SHOOTING - SEPTEMBER 22ND 1943, 11:00 A.M.



WHAT DOES IT SAY, EGIDIO?

THEY'RE THREATENING US...

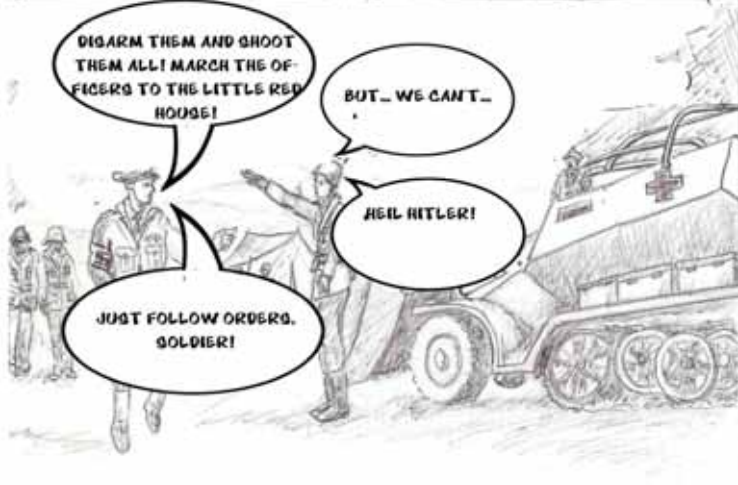


GENERAL, WE'VE ALSO LOST GENERAL GANDIN.

YES, SIR!

MY GOD... WE'VE ALSO RUN OUT OF MUNITIONS. WE OUGHT TO SURRENDER.

COMMANDER, WE'VE GOT THE ACQUI DIVISION SURRENDER.



DISARM THEM AND SHOOT THEM ALL! MARCH THE OFFICERS TO THE LITTLE RED HOUSE!

BUT... WE CAN'T...

HELL HITLER!

JUST FOLLOW ORDERS, SOLDIER!



GO TO HELL, SON OF A...!

INSTRUCTED TO SHOOT THE ITALIAN PRISONERS, THE GERMAN TROOPS OF THE 2ND COMPANY DISOBEY THE ORDERS THEY RECEIVED. THE ITALIAN SOLDIERS AND A FRINGE GROUP OF GERMAN SOLDIERS SETTLE ON AN ALLIANCE.



GENERAL GHERZI, WHERE ARE THEY TAKING US?

I DON'T KNOW, GON.



ALFRED, ARE YOU SURE WE REALLY HAVE TO FOLLOW THAT MAD COMMANDER'S ORDERS?

AS SOON AS WE GET TO THE LITTLE RED HOUSE, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I'M GOING TO DO.



WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO, ALFRED?

DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD MAKE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ITALIANS?

MAYBE... I REFUSE TO CARRY OUT AN ORDER THAT DOESN'T ABIDE BY THE RIGHTS OF PRISONERS OF WAR

!

WE'LL PASS OFF AS TRAITORS...!



NO... IT'S NOT LIKE THAT! WE'RE SOLDIERS, NOT MURDERERS. I'LL BE IN CHARGE OF GENERAL GHERZI. IF ANYONE DISAGREES WITH ME THEY CAN GO BACK TO LANZ'S CAMP.



GENERAL GHERZI, WE DON'T WANT TO GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS WAR CRIMINALS. FROM NOW ON, I ENTRUST YOU WITH THE COMMAND OF THIS CAMP.

WHAT...! WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY TROOPS?

IT'S UP TO YOU TO DECIDE, GENERAL. WE'LL SUPPORT YOU, WHATEVER YOU DECIDE.



LIEUTENANT, CALL THE CAPTAIN. TELL HIM TO MEET ME AT THE LITTLE RED HOUSE.

YES, SIR.

!



CAPTAIN, I APPOINT YOU TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGER OF OUR NEW HEADQUARTERS HERE AT THE LITTLE RED HOUSE.

GENERAL GANDIN WOULD HAVE BEEN PROUD OF YOU, GENERAL.

LIEUTENANT MICHELE SPADARO UNDER YOUR COMMAND WILL BE BY YOUR SIDE.



THE GERMAN SOLDIERS IN THE CAMP, OTHER GERMANS AND MANY GREEK CIVILIANS ARE JOINING US ALL OVER THE ISLAND. TODAY IN CEPHALONIA WE'RE CREATING THE EUROPEAN PATRIOT ARMY FOR PEACE AND DEMOCRACY.

I'LL GO AND TELL THE TROOPS.



FROM TODAY ONWARDS, GERMANS, GREEKS, ITALIANS, EUROPEANS, WE WILL STRUGGLE TOGETHER AGAINST ALL DICTATORSHIPS. A SKY-BLUE CLOTH WITH TWELVE STARS HAS BEEN CHOSEN AS THE FLAG OF OUR NEW ARMY. THIS BANNER SYMBOLIZES THE BROTHERHOOD OF THE EUROPEAN PEOPLES.

MEANWHILE, AURORA SEWS THE SKY-BLUE FLAG WITH TWELVE STARS.



AURORA, IS THE FLAG READY?

YES, I'VE JUST FINISHED EMBROIDERING IT.



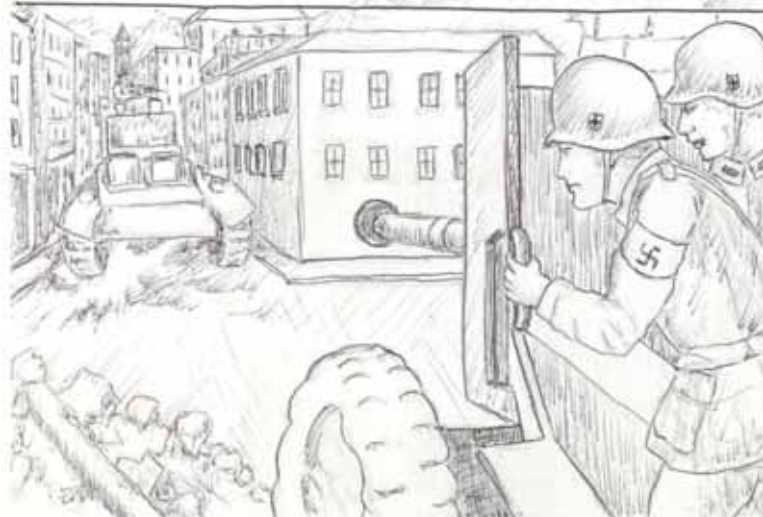
THANK YOU, AURORA.

THE BATTLES CONTINUE BEING FOUGHT TO FREE THE ISLAND FROM THE "ENEMIES OF DEMOCRACY". THE CONVENTIONAL SIGN FOR GENERAL UPRISING IS THE SKY-BLUE FLAG WITH TWELVE STARS.

MEANWHILE, UNABLE TO EMPLOY ADDITIONAL FORCES, GENERAL LANZ ORDERS WITHDRAWAL ON BOARD THE WARSHIPS.



REPEAT!

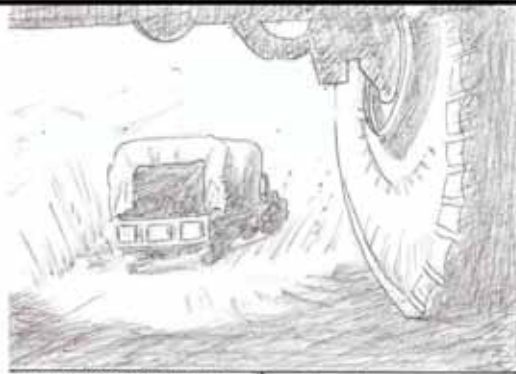


NOT TOO FAR AWAY...

WE MUST REACH THE TRUCKS.. GENERAL LANZ IS ON BOARD READY TO FLEE BY NOW.

THE EUROPEAN PATRIOT ARMY STOPS THE LAST FEW "ENEMIES OF DEMOCRACY" ON THE VILLAGE BOUNDARIES. THE RIGHTS OF ALL THE PRISONERS OF WAR ARE GUARANTEED TO ALL CAPTURED SOLDIERS.

AT EUROPEAN PATRIOT ARMY HEADQUARTERS, A FEW MONTHS LATER...



LIEUTENANT SPADARO, HOIST THE FLAGS ON KEY POINTS. TODAY THE DELEGATES FOR THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WILL COME TO THE ISLAND FROM ALL OVER EUROPE. THEY WILL GATHER AT SAINT GEORGE'S CASTLE.

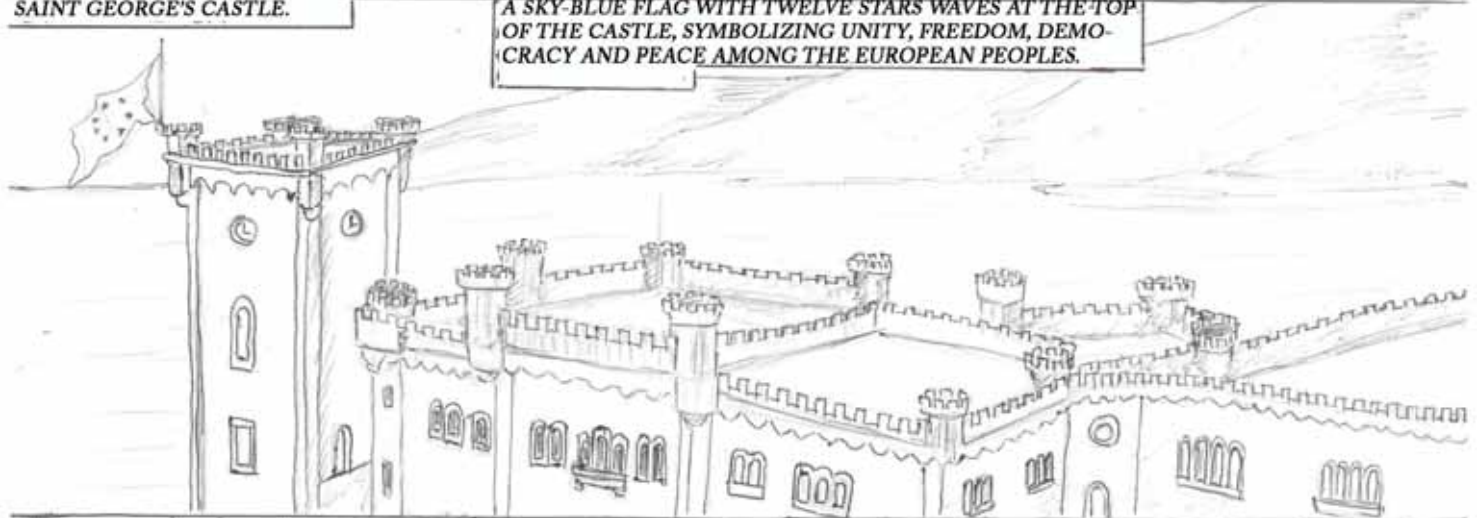
YES, SIR!

VALIANOS SQUARE.



SAINT GEORGE'S CASTLE.

A SKY-BLUE FLAG WITH TWELVE STARS WAVES AT THE TOP OF THE CASTLE, SYMBOLIZING UNITY, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND PEACE AMONG THE EUROPEAN PEOPLES.



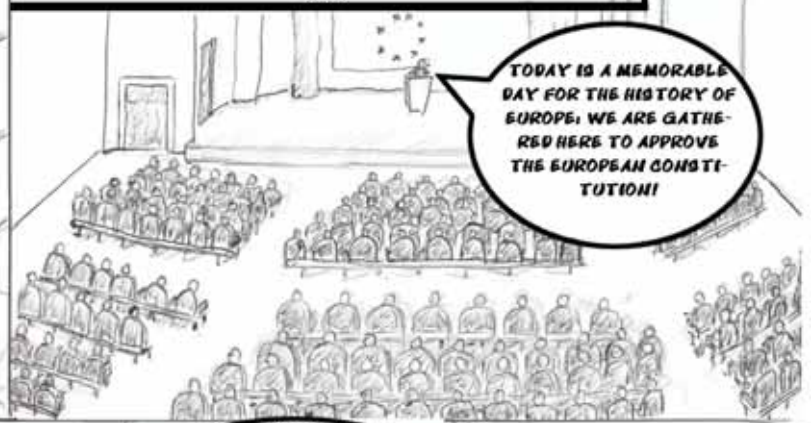
ARE WE FAR FROM SAINT GEORGE'S CASTLE?

NO, MR. SCHUMAN... JUST A FEW KILOMETERS.

**SAINT GEORGE'S CASTLE**



**ROBERT SCHUMAN DELIVERS HIS SPEECH TO OPEN THE CONSTITUENT CONVENTION BEFORE THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL THE EUROPEAN PEOPLES: IT'S MAY 9TH 1945.**



**AFTER INTERSE DEBATE , THE EUROPEAN COSTITUION IS APPROVED BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EUREAN PEOPLES , THUS BECOMING A PRIMARY A SOURCE OF LAW FOR FONDAMENTAL RINGHTS OF ALL EUROPEAN CITIZENS, AS WELL AS FOR OPERATING RULES OF EUROPE'S INSTITUTIONS! THE PRINCIPLES AND VALUES APPROVED REGULATE, FROM THAT MOMENT ON , THE PEACEFUL AND DEMOCRATIC COEXISTENCE OF ALL EUROPEAN PEOPLES! SO, ON THE ASCHES OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR , "EUROPEAN COSTITUTIONAL PATRIOTISM " IS CRETEATED!**

