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Criminal Jurisdiction Over Visiting Armed Forces

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The thoughts and opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily of the U.S. government, the U.S. Department of the Navy or the Naval War College.
APPENDIX IV

GREECE. AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTING NATO AGREEMENT

Agreement between the United States and Greece implementing the NATO Agreement. September 7, 1956. 7 UST 2556, TIAS 3649.

ARTICLE I

2. “Agreement between the Parties of the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of Their Forces”, dated June 19, 1951, shall govern the status of the forces of the United States in Greece as well as members of these forces, members of the civilian component, and their dependents, who are in Greece and who are serving in that country in furtherance of objectives of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or who are temporarily present in Greece.

ARTICLE II

1. The Greek authorities, recognizing that it is the primary responsibility of the United States authorities to maintain good order and discipline where persons subject to United States military law are concerned, will, upon the request of the United States authorities, waive their primary right to exercise jurisdiction under Article VII, paragraph 3(c) of that Agreement, except when they determine that it is of particular importance that jurisdiction be exercised by the Greek authorities.

2. In those cases where, in accordance with the foregoing paragraph, there is waiver of jurisdiction by the Greek authorities, the competent United States authorities shall inform the Greek Government of the disposition of each such case.

ARTICLE III

1. In such cases where the Government of Greece may exercise criminal jurisdiction as provided for in Article II above, the
United States authorities shall take custody of the accused pending completion of trial proceedings. Custody of the accused will be maintained in Greece. During the trial and pretrial proceedings the accused shall be entitled to have a representative of the United States Government present. The trial shall be public unless otherwise agreed.