

THE GREEK DEMOCRATIC ARMY.



DSE guerrilla, Greek Civil War (1946-49).

DURING World War II the Greek communists offered the main resistance to the German occupation of Greece. During the course of the struggle they built themselves up into a well-organised para-military force. At the end of the war the struggle continued, now against the right-wing government set up by the British and Americans.

Calling themselves the DSE (Dimokratikos Stratos Ellados — Greek Democratic Army) the communists conducted an intense guerrilla campaign against the government from December 1946 to August 1949.

Although the Greek Democratic Army or DSE had no formal uniform, most guerrillas adopted some form of military dress, usually derived from a combination of Italian, German, Yugoslav or British sources.

THIS FEMALE GUERRILLA is kitted out in British Army battledress (trousers dyed black) and British web anklets. Armament: comprises a German 9mm MP40 sub-machine gun.

The MP40 was a highly successful World War II design. It featured a 32-round magazine and a metal stock which could be folded — as shown in the picture. The MP40 was the standard sub-machine gun of the DSE during the Greek Civil War.