

**LEFT**  
Students in Athens burn the Union Jack during riots over union of Cyprus and Greece in 1956. Bettmann



**LEFT**  
British soldiers on duty in Cyprus in 1955. The truck bears the menacing message, 'Disperse or we shoot'. Getty



**ABOVE**  
An injured young man is escorted by British troops away from a riot in Metaxas Square, Nicosia, in 1955. Getty

Another witness testified that he heard the teenager's interrogator say: "If you do not tell us the truth, we shall kill you."

Images of Christoforou in the morgue show his face bloodied and disfigured. Clinical documents show that he died from internal injuries on 22 November "whilst in custody from injuries due to a blow or fall or some other form of violence but there is no evidence to show when, where, how and in what manner he received the injuries which caused his death".

One of the youngest of the 14 men allegedly killed in detention by the British was 17-year-old Lucas Louka, an EOKA member who died in the city of Famagusta in 1958 after what appears to be a brutal beating from an English military police officer.

Photographs from the morgue indicate signs of baton strikes on his back, with the fatal blow on the left side of his head. A friend of Louka's said he saw him being "assaulted" by a British military captain. Another saw the teenager attacked "with a heavy rod" by the same officer. The friend added: "He started beating the deceased everywhere, on the head, body. I saw Louka lying on the bed and the captain beating him."

Veteran EOKA fighter Michalakis Moustakas described how Nicos Georgiou, 37, who was arrested in the village of Platres, died in detention. Held in a cell next to Georgiou, Moustakas said they were forced to sleep naked on cement, were fed urine, repeatedly beaten and dragged by their genitals.

The witness, now 86, said he watched Georgiou being dragged out of his cell with foam coming from his mouth. "Every night when I go to bed, I can still hear his growling sound while dying," said Moustakas.

Images taken in the morgue show Georgiou's body covered with bruises along with head injuries.

British veterans who served in

Cyprus have also offered accounts that contradict the UK's official version. A senior officer wrote an account of the death of EOKA member Spyros Hadjiyiakoumi. The late major Michael Stourton attempted to raise his concerns over the torture of the 27-year-old father of four at a British interrogation centre in the town of Kythrea. His efforts to flag the issue were quashed by Ministry of Defence censors.

Two other EOKA members who were tortured in the same hut as Hadjiyiakoumi but survived told how British interrogators placed a metal bucket on their heads and struck it, and stabbed their feet with a bayonet. The coroner's report from the time claimed the injuries "were caused during an unsuccessful attempt to escape from lawful custody".

Another British veteran also offered key evidence into the death of another of the 14 – Andreas Panayiotou, a 31-year-old EOKA member who died in a Platres hotel requisitioned by the British army. Brian Robertson, 85, who served in Platres with the Gordon Highlanders from October 1955 to December 1956, said that a friend called Kevin Taylor, who served in the military medical inspection room, told him that a detainee had died after being tied up in a freezing water fountain all night.

Robertson, from Aberdeen, said the chief doctor was apparently horrified and refused to sign the death certificate, forcing the officers involved to summon another doctor from the Cypriot capital, Nicosia. "They had to get another old army doctor to sign the death certificate. I am certain the British did engage in the use of torture," Robertson said.

Two of the bodies of the 14 men identified by Stamatiou are still missing and are believed to be secretly buried. British accounts state that both men managed to escape, though neither has been seen since. One of them – 27-year-old Nicolaos Yiangou – was last seen being driven away in a black Morris minor car after being interrogated by British secret services, police and soldiers.

The British military continues to operate two bases in Cyprus, one close to Limassol and one in Dhekelia.

The Foreign Office referred its current position to a 2019 statement from then Foreign Office minister Alan Duncan which said that the "passage of time means that it is now no longer possible to establish all of the facts with certainty."

It added: "The UK government acknowledges the strongly held views of many Cypriots about the emergency" and said that the violence was a "matter of regret."

**Justice must be served. An official apology to victims' families is important'**

**Elina Stamatiou, author**

# 'I became guardian of the Greek temples – and wept with joy'

One of Italy's youngest experts is leading two big archaeological sites

**Angela Guiffrida**

The ancient Greek city of Paestum, on Italy's south-west coast, is hardly discreet – its temples are glaringly obvious for all to see. Yet it was only "rediscovered" in the mid-18th century thanks to the grand tour, when the sons of aristocrats from across Europe, though mostly Britain, visited southern European cultural sites as part of their education.

Now its majestic temples have a new guardian – a 38-year-old from Milan. Tiziana D'Angelo is one of the youngest people to direct a big Italian cultural site and is among the few female directors. "You would expect a very serious and composed reaction but the first thing I did was scream," she said on being told she had got the job. "Then came tears of joy."

The first time she set eyes on Paestum, famous for its three Doric temples, dating from about 600 to 450BC, was as a child when visiting the site with her family. Her studies brought her back in 2012 to conduct research on the funerary paintings that adorned hundreds of tombs, dating from the Greek to the Lucanian and Roman eras. These were excavated in Paestum and necropolises in the surrounding area, and she studied them as part of her doctorate at Harvard University.

"I returned periodically and collaborated with Gabriel Zuchtriegel [the former director] on exhibitions, and so I maintained a relationship with the site," said D'Angelo, who has also studied at Oxford and Cambridge, and up until a few weeks ago was an assistant professor at Nottingham University. "But never would I have imagined that one day I would come back here as director. It's a dream."

Paestum, located in the Cilento area of Italy's Campania region, is often overshadowed by the more popular Pompeii and Herculaneum. Even more low-profile is nearby Velia, where the Greek philosopher Parmenides was born, which along with Paestum formed part of Magna Graecia, the name of the southern Italian coastal areas colonised by the Greeks. The management of the two sites was merged in early 2020.

Founded in about 600BC, Paestum was originally called Poseidonia, from Poseidon, or Neptune, the god of the sea, to whom the city was dedicated. It was later conquered by the Lucanians and then the Romans, although D'Angelo said the transitions were gradual.

"You have to think that these people coexisted. They negotiated space and power, and there is archaeolog-

ical evidence of this: for example, the funerary paintings allow you to reconstruct this much more complex context," she added.

Paestum's walls and amphitheatre remain mostly intact, but it was only in the second half of the 20th century, when excavations began in earnest, that hundreds of painted graves were found in and around the area, including the Tomb of the Diver – the only one dating back to the Greek period. Discovered in a small cemetery in the late 1960s by the noted archaeologist Mario Napoli, its huge grave ledger depicts a naked man diving into the sea, said to be a metaphor of the transition from life to death. Other slabs from the tomb depict scenes of a banquet and homosexual love.

"You might think these paintings were just a commemoration of the dead, but they were part of the funerary process, as they were actually painted during the ceremony," she said.

Other treasures found at Paestum include various pottery, weapons and ancient Greek homes.

Over in Velia, founded by Phocaeen Greek colonists who made their way to southern Italy after their victory in a 6th-century naval battle over the



Tiziana D'Angelo at Paestum.

Etruscans and their Carthaginian allies off Corsica, the most recent discovery was two warrior helmets believed to have originated from the battle, one taken from the enemy. Also found were vases and the remains of a temple dedicated to the goddess Athena. "They built temples that contained Greek weapons but we also found evidence of Etruscan weapons, which tells us they also dedicated the weapons of their enemies to Athena," said D'Angelo.

She plans to consolidate the two parks, including establishing a bus link between them. In Velia, work is under way to make a former railway tunnel, currently serving as a warehouse for the site's treasures, accessible to the public. A museum is planned at Velia, while more space will open at Paestum's museum this year.

The Easter weekend was D'Angelo's first as director, and there was a record number of visitors, a sign that she could be in for a busy time.