

## ROYAL ORDER OF THE REDEEMER



The Order of the Redeemer, which was the premier Greek Honour, was founded on May 20.

The star of the Order portrays Christ the Redeemer in the centre, surrounded by the text:

“Thy Right Hand, O Lord, is Become Glorious”.

The Badge is a white enamel eight-pointed cross encircled by laurel and oak leaves and also portrays Christ the Redeemer in the centre.

5 grades in civil and military divisions: Grand Cross, Grand Commander, Commander, Knight's Gold Cross and Knight's Silver Cross.

The ribbon of the Order is light blue with narrow white borders.

## THE ROYAL FAMILY ORDER OF ST. GEORGE AND ST. CONSTANTINE



The Royal Order of St. George and St. Constantine (for men) and St. Olga and St. Sophia (for women) was founded by King George II in January 1936 in memory of his parents King Constantine and Queen Sophia and his grandparents King George I and Queen Olga.

It was awarded exclusively for personal services to the Royal House.

### THE ORDER OF ST. GEORGE AND ST. CONSTANTINE

consists of a white enamel cross edged in red, with the cipher of King George II surmounted by a crown in each of the four intersections of the cross. It has a circular centre portraying the two Saints, surrounded by a gold border with the Lions and Hearts of Denmark.

5 grades in civil and military divisions: Grand Cross, Grand Commander, Commander, Knight's Gold Cross and Knight's Silver Cross.

The ribbon is dark blue with a narrow border of short horizontal red-white-blue stripes.

## THE ROYAL FAMILY ORDER OF ST. OLGA AND ST. SOPHIA



THE ORDER OF ST. OLGA AND ST. SOPHIA is similar to its male equivalent, except that St. Olga and St. Sophia are portrayed in the centre.

The ribbon is also dark blue only narrower, and the short horizontal stripes on the border are blue-white.

4 grades, from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> class.

## CHAIN OF THE ROYAL ORDER OF ST. GEORGE AND ST. CONSTANTINE



The Chain of the Order of St. George and St. Constantine is composed of eight crowned lions rampant adorned with three hearts and linked alternately by the crowned monogram "G" which stands for George I and "K" which stands for Constantine I. the frontal link of the Chain consists of a crowned double-headed eagle to which the Badge Appendant is directly attached.

The Chain Star is formed by a cross basically similar to the Badge Appendant, except for the lack of the surmounting royal crown and for the added blue cross centrally covered by the medallion.

The crowned outer circle of the medallion is enameled blue and bears the inscription "THE LOVE OF MY PEOPLE IS MY STRENGTH"

The Star is awarded together with the Chain and is worn on the left side chest.

## THE ROYAL ORDER OF KING GEORGE I



THE ORDER OF GEORGE I was founded by King Constantine I on January 16, 1915 in memory of his father King George I, the founder of the Dynasty, who was murdered in Thessaloniki on March 05, 1913.

The Badge consists of a plain flat-edged white enamel cross encircled by laurel leaves, with a circular centre carrying the cipher of King George I surrounded by the Royal Motto:

“THE LOVE OF MY PEOPLE IS MY STRENGTH”

This is also superimposed on the Star, which is eight pointed.

5 grades in civil and military divisions: Grand Cross, Grand Commander, Commander, Knight's Gold Cross and Knight's Silver Cross.

The ribbon is crimson.

## THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX



THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX was founded on May 13, 1926 and consists of a gilt Phoenix rising from the flames, superimposed on an eight pointed Star.

The Badge consists of the gilt Phoenix superimposed on a white round-edged enamel cross, with a small gilt star in the centre of the upper arm of the cross.

The ribbon is bright yellow with narrow black borders.

5 grades in civil and military divisions: Grand Cross, Grand Commander, Commander, Knight's Gold Cross and Knight's Silver Cross.

## THE ORDER OF THE BENEVOLENCE



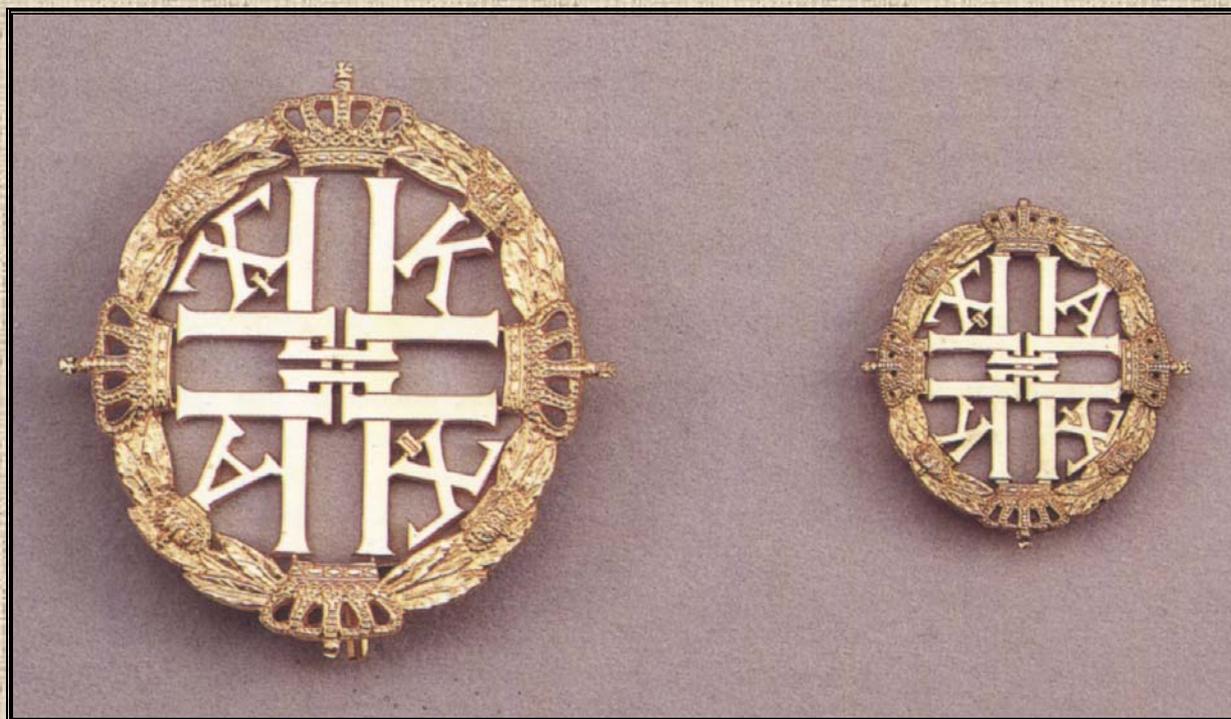
THE ORDER OF BENEVOLENCE was founded by King Paul I on May 7, 1948 and was awarded to women only for services in the sphere of philanthropy, letters and the arts.

It consists of a blue five-petalled flower with a circular centre portraying the Virgin Mary holding the Infant Christ, surrounded by a white enamel border with the word "Benevolence".

5 grades in civil division: Grand Cross, Grand Commander, Commander, Knight's Gold Cross and Knight's Silver Cross.

The ribbon is wheat yellow with narrow blue borders.

## COMMEMORATIVE BADGE FOR THE CENTENARY OF THE ROYAL HOUSE OF GREECE



This Royal Jubilee Badge was created on March 30, 1963 for the centenary of the Royal House of Greece . It was designed personally by King Paul I, and consists of the ciphers of the five Kings who reigned until that date – George I, Constantine I, Alexander I, George II and Paul I.

The Badge was conferred upon Royal House guests who took part in the anniversary celebrations held in Athens during the summer of 1963.

Struck in silver and gold plated. The Badge had two sizes, one for gentlemen and one for ladies and it was worn on the left side of the chest.



## **AWARDING OF THE ORDERS AND DECORATIONS**

The Article 40 of the Greek Constitution of 1952, conferred on the King the right to award Orders and Decorations. These honours were moral awards and did not confer any title or similar distinction.

The main Greek Orders were:

- THE ROYAL ORDER OF THE REDEEMER
- THE ROYAL ORDER OF GEORGE I
- THE ROYAL ORDER OF THE PHOENIX
- THE ROYAL ORDER OF BENEVOLENCE

Also, the Royal Family Order of St. George and St. Constantine for men and its equivalent for women, the Order of St. Olga and St. Sophia, which came immediately after the Order of the Redeemer in precedence.

All Greek Orders had 5 degrees:

- KNIGHT GRAND CROSS (GRAND CROIX)
- KNIGHT COMMANDER (GRAND COMMANDEUR)
- COMMANDER (COMMANDEUR)
- OFFICER or “Gold Cross” (OFFICIER)
- MEMBER or “Silver Cross” (CHEVALIER)

The Order of St. George and St. Constantine also has a Chain which is higher than the Grand Cross.

The Order of St. George and St. Constantine, the Order of George I and the Order of the Phoenix have both a Civil and a Military Division.