

**CANADA: \$20B submarine showdown puts Korean (HANWHA) and German (THUSSENKRUPP) bids in spotlight (decision in June according to CBC)**

**GREECE: South Korea's Hanwha Ocean has formalized its entry into the Greek naval and maritime defense sector by signing a strategic teaming agreement with Greece's ONEX Shipyards & Technologies Group, the country's largest shipbuilding and defense firm. (From a Naval Newspaper)**

CONNECTIONS between HANWHA AND GREECE (from a FACEBOOK post of mine)

During my visit to Seoul in 1995 for a Polymer Processing Society conference (PPS-11), I was invited to present two lectures at a research center of the HANWHA Group, a large business conglomerate (chaebol) with diverse interests in defense systems, explosives, energy, materials, aerospace, real estate, finance, and insurance. A two-hour train ride took me to Daejeon. When I congratulated my hosts for the appealing architectural design of their newly established research building, I learned that Dr. George Lianis, the ambassador of Greece in Korea and someone I knew well, had been present during the center's inauguration. Dr. Lianis had served as professor at Purdue University, the University of Thessaloniki and as minister of research and technology of Greece. My hosts promptly arranged a meeting with Dr. Lianis upon my return to Seoul.

Dr. Lianis shared with me that Hanwha had its origins as an explosives company founded in 1952 by Kim Chong-hee, who later became the honorary consul-general of Greece in 1968. However, after Kim Chong-hee's passing in 1981, there was no longer diplomatic representation from Greece in Seoul. During Dr. Lianis's tenure as the Greek ambassador in Japan, he was responsible for consular affairs in Korea. Kim Chong-hee's son suggested to Dr. Lianis that establishing an embassy, rather than a consulate, would be preferable for Greece and offered office space rent-free. Currently, the embassy is situated on the 27th floor of the Hanwha Headquarters Building.

See the Greek flag in Hanwha's headquarters in Seoul in the attachment

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