

Trial of 34 Greeks nears end

By SAM MODIANO
in Athens

THE trial of the 34 Greek intellectuals accused of having conspired to overthrow the social régime of Greece is nearing its end.

All the accused have made statements for their defence.

When the court resumes today, the Crown prosecutor will present his plea recommending penalties.

All of them have so far denied in their evidence the charge of having participated in "pro-Communist sedition."

Two of the main accused who gave evidence yesterday were Mr George Alexandros Mangakis, 48, Assistant Professor of Law at the Athens University, and Prof. Dionyssios Karayorgas, 39, of the Athens High School of Political Sciences.

Bombs not harmful

Prof. Mangakis denied that he was a member of the "Democratic defence" organisation. He admitted, however, to having "sympathised" with its aims.

Prof. Mangakis confessed to have tried to unite different political parties of Greece in order to succeed to the present regime. He also said that he received in April, 1969, from a Swedish journalist a parcel containing 13 explosive devices. He had been told that the bombs were not harmful.

Prof. Mangakis said he agreed to store them in his country house for three months. "I thought that we should not have recourse to these devices if we could manage to oust the present rulers through more peaceful means," he claimed.

Already overthrown

Three months later, he handed over the bombs to another defendant, still wanted by the police, who in turn gave them to Prof. Karayorgas.

Prof. Karayorgas also denied the charges against him.

"It was not possible for us to overthrow the social regime of Greece. This regime had already been thrown down when the Army-backed revolution seized power in April, 1967," he claimed.

Prof. Karayorgas, admitted to having belonged to "Democratic Defence." He said that one of the 13 time bombs he received from one of his co-defendants exploded in his hands, last summer.