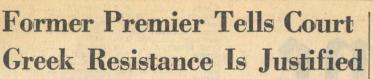
Page 2





Panavotis Kanellopoulos

- Israel, Syria **In Big Battle**

> (Continued from Page 1) Syrian tank explode in flames only a few yards from a United Nations position. Pilots later reported hit-ting positions throughout the rear lines of the Syrian force established in

> in the region. An Israeli captain was reported to have been killed in one of the exchanges in the Nahal Geshur area, the scene of the heaviest fighting.

Waves of Israeli planes crossed the cease-fire lines throughout the day, soldiers reported later. At one point, Syrian artillery opened fire on Kuneitra, a largely abandoned Syrian town under Israeli occupation.

Israeli jets rather than artillery were called in to silence the Syrian firing, observers said. By late after-noon the firing had spread along most of the line, with the only exceptions being the mountainous region in the far north and the deep valley in the south.

Reports from Arab radios heard here said that the Syrian Air Force flew a low cover over Damascus for most of the day. Damascus airport was reported to have been closed after noon.

By Israeli accounts, the action today brings to 20 the number of Syrian Migs downed since the end of the six day war to two Jet losses for Israel.

Russia Assails **U.K. Defense of** Tear, Smoke Gas

GENEVA, April 2 (AP).—The Soviet Union today denounced the British claim that tear and smoke gases are not covered by the 1926 Geneva protocol banning germ and chemical warfare.

Britain, which adheres to the protocol, says it does not apply to such chemical agents as the CS smoke gas. The chief British smoke gas. The chief British delegate to the disarmament con-ference here, Lord Chalfont, has argued that such a gas could be used in warfare for "humanitarian reasons" such as taking prisoners. The United

used in warrare for "humanitarian reasons" such as taking prisoners. The United States, which has not ratified the Geneva protocol and uses CS gas in Vietnam for smok-ing out the Viet Cong, has thus

ATHENS, April 2 (Reuters) Defense witnesses for 34 prominent Athenians charged with plotting to overthrow the government said today the Greek people are justi-fied in resisting a regime that curbs their freedom.

International Heroild Tribung

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their freedom. The trial, now in its seventh day, reached a climax last night when the Conservative leader, Panayotis Kanellopoulos—deposed as premier by the military-backed regime nearly three years ago—said he ap-proves of the methods of the ac-cused to bring down the govern-ment ment.

The defendants stood and ap-plauded the 67-year-old leader of the Conservative National Radical Union party when he said: "The military rulers should have known that their violence would provoke

"That is why the responsibility for the bomb explosions does not lie with the defendants but with others."

The defendants, including uni-versity professors, judges, lawyers and a retired army general, are charged with using bombs to top-ple the regime and establish a Communist-style administration in the country

All are being tried under an anti-sedition law passed 22 years ago to quell a Communist upris-ing. The maximum penalty is

death. The prosecution claims the de-fendants belong to an underground

rendants belong to an underground organization known as Democra-tiki Amyna (Democratic Defense). Prosecution witnesses have al-leged that Amyna has cooperated with pro-Communist organizations like the Patriotic Front to attain it communications.

Many of the accused have claim-ed in court that their confessions were obtained by police torture. Athanassios Mihas, former deputy

speaker in the Athens parliament, rejected the prosecution claim that the army takeover was necessary the army takeover was necessary to cope with a Communist threat. "Only the legal government at that time was competent to say

to cope with a Communist threat. "Only the legal government at that time was competent to say so," he said. "In that case, the constitution provided for the sus-pension of a few of its articles dealing with civil liberties, but only for a limited period, and this after parliamentary approval." "God forbid, if the people would have accepted without any protest and resistance a regime that abol-ished their freedom. It is grati-fying that Greeks everywhere offer resistance to the present regime." Other defense witnesses included retired generals, high-court judges, diplomats and university profes-sors. All testified the defendants are not Communists but demo-crats, belonging either to Socialist or Conservative parties. The verdict is expected next week.

week.

Jurists Protest Bar

GENEVA, April 2 (NYT).—The International Commission of Jurists said today that the Greek author-ities have "once more publicly demonstrated their indifference to the rule of law" by barring foreign observers from a military court trying 34 persons on charges of subversion. Two representatives of the com-

Two representatives of the comamong the foreign lawyers who protested Monday that they had been denied access to the Athens courtroom.



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Publication **5** News **Given** H

April ATHENS, military Athens down stiff prison fines yesterday to men and a former held responsible for an interview callin ration of democracy Yiannis Kapsis, anti-regime newsp

No One to For Val Avalanch

PARIS, April 2 (ernment commissi avalanche d'Isère persons Feb. 10 sa could officially be for the disaster.

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in French mounts Some officials is relatives of the de inadequate precau taken and that poorly constructed promuted a govern prompted a govern The commission i that it "confirms t bility can be officia

bility can be official anyone." The commission is all authorizations building of the h properly obtained, quality of the con not be criticized.