SALUTE TO GREECE



An Anthology of Cartoons published in the British Press

Edited by S.-L. Hourmouzios

Published by Evans Brothers Ltd.,
Montague House, Russell Square,
London, W.C.1.

Made and Printed in Great Britain
by Morrison & Gibb Ltd., London and
Edinburgh.

ΕΝΩΣΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΚΟΥ ΚΕΝΤΡΟΥ
ΕΔΗΚ

SALUTE TO GREECE

An Anthology of Cartoons published in the British Press

ΕΝΩΣΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΚΟΥ ΚΕΝΤΡΟΥ
ΕΔΗΚ

Edited by

S.-L. Hourmouzios

EVANS BROTHERS LIMITED, LONDON

Εἰ τὸ καλῶς θνήσκειν ἀρετῆς μέρος ἐστὶ μέγιστον,
ἡμῖν ἐκ πάντων τοῦτ' ἀπένειμε τύχη·
Ἑλλάδι γὰρ σπεύδοντες ἐλευθερίην περιθεῖναι
κείμεθ' ἀγηράντῳ χρώμενοι εὐλογίῃ.

* * *

If Valour's best be gallantly to die,
Fortune to us of all men grants it now.
We to set Freedom's crown on Hellas' brow
Laboured, and here in ageless honour lie.

SIMONIDES, *Epigram on the Athenians.*

ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΠΟΔΙΣΤΡΙΑΚΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ
ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΤΕΚΜΗΡΙΩΣΗΣ
ΕΔΗΚ

To the Greek Soldier
who, in the mountains of Albania,
defeated Fascist Italy
on a piece of bread and
a handful of black olives,
this book is proudly dedicated.

ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΚΟΥ ΚΕΝΤΡΟΥ ΕΔΗΚ

Preface

THIS little book seeks to tell, through the medium of the Cartoon, the story of the most moving and inspiring episode of this war: the Battle of Greece.

It is so customary to read in prefaces of people "without whose assistance this book would not have been written" that one hesitates to use this hackneyed form of acknowledgment; but use it I must, for every word of it is true.

To the Artists who conceived the Cartoons in the first place, to the Editors who not only granted me permission to reproduce but loaned me the original drawings whenever they were available, to the many others who gave me the benefit of their great experience and expert advice —to each and every one of these I am profoundly grateful.

S.-L. H.

LONDON, *4th July* 1942.

Contents

CHAPTER I INVASION

II RESISTANCE

III VICTORY

IV AGAIN INVASION

V TRIUMPH

ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΚΟΥ ΚΕΝΤΡΟΥ ΕΔΗΚ

This Book Tells a Story

ΕΝΩΣΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΚΟΥ ΚΕΝΤΡΟΥ
ΕΔΗΚ

CHAPTER I

THE Story begins in the middle of June 1940 when Mussolini, waiting until France lies prostrate before the German army, draws his stiletto and enters the war by delivering his western neighbour a stab in the back.

The Allied forces have been evacuated from the Continent, and the Axis has the whole of Europe at its feet.

Or almost the whole of Europe; for there is one little country called Greece that persists in maintaining an independent attitude and stubbornly refuses to be browbeaten out of her policy of strict neutrality. This does not suit the Axis at all, for Germany has certain plans with regard to Russia, plans that cannot be put into execution until the Axis flank is quite secure. So Mussolini is allotted the task of bringing Greece into line.

The Italian dictator, a little envious of Hitler's sequence of easy victories, is not averse to exploiting an opportunity that promises cheap laurels for the Italian army. So Italian troops are concentrated threateningly on the Greco-Albanian frontier—a very simple expedient that has stood Hitler in good stead in the past and should prove enough for a small country of eight million people. But the only reaction it produces is a corresponding concentration of Greek troops on the other side of the frontier.

This plan having proved ineffective, the Italian propaganda machine now takes a hand. The killing of an Albanian brigand by some of his own compatriots eager to collect the price on his head is distorted into the brutal murder of a great Albanian patriot by Greeks. This ruse also falls flat when the Greek Government publishes a few biographical details regarding the dead criminal, who is wanted for every conceivable crime.

His puerile schemes proving of no avail, Mussolini now becomes bolder. On the 15th of August 1940 the Greek cruiser *Helle*, riding at anchor in Tenos harbour during a religious festival, is torpedoed and sunk by an invisible submarine, the identity of which is soon established when fragments of the torpedoes with the tell-tale Italian markings on them are recovered by divers from the sea-bed.

But the Greeks still refuse to be drawn into the trap. The identity of the submarine is kept secret, and the Greek nation mourns in silence the victims of this cowardly outrage.

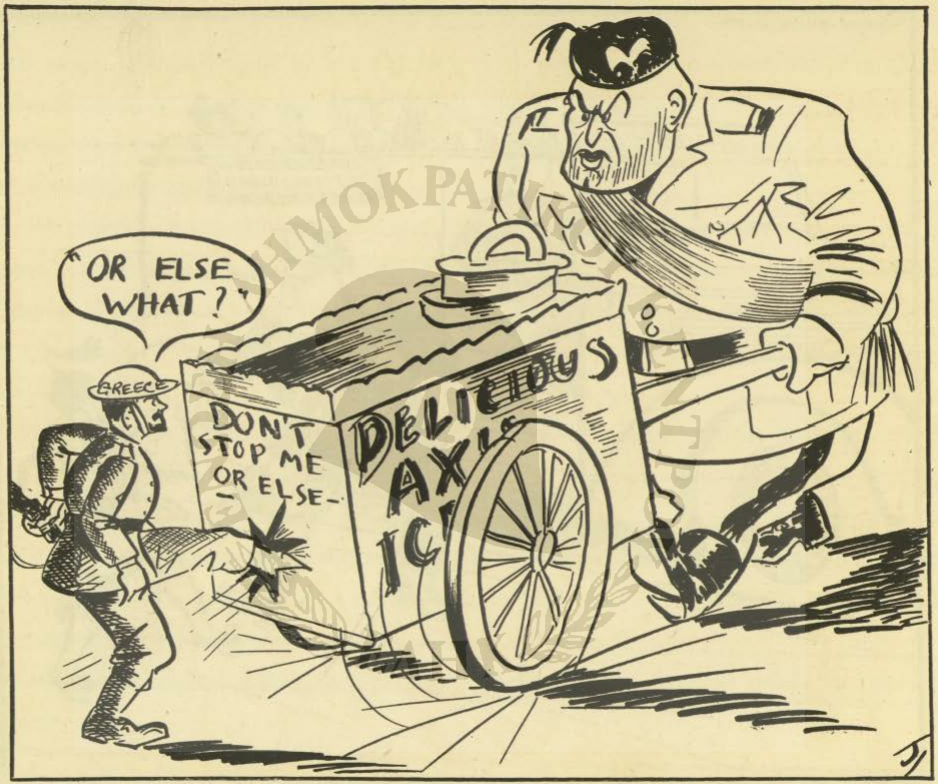
By now the Duce has lost his patience. If the Greeks will not be persuaded, they must be taught a lesson. Throwing all pretence to the winds, he presents an insolent ultimatum to the Greek Government—which promptly throws it back in his teeth—and on the morning of the 28th of October 1940 the Italian army invades Greece over the Albanian frontier.

The Greek nation, united as one man behind its King, prepares grimly to meet the intruder.



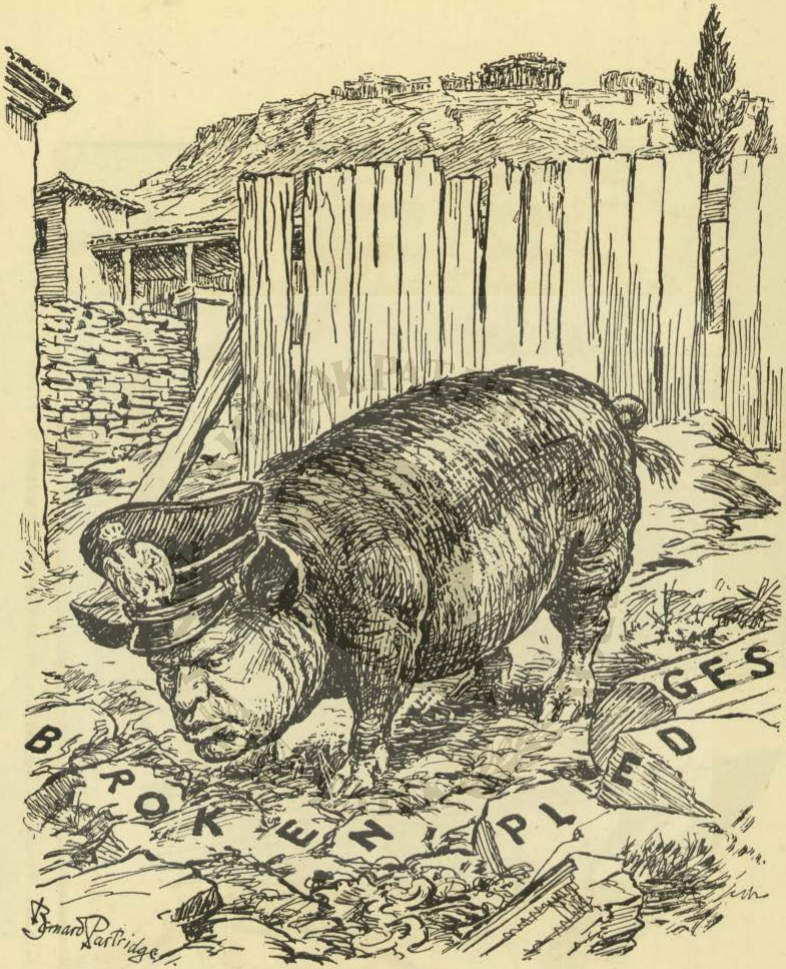
"Never mind about not going our way!"

By courtesy of the "Daily Herald" and the Artist, George Whitelaw.



WHEN WOP MEETS GREEK

By courtesy of the "Orkney Herald" and the Artist.



COLTURA ROMANA

"I solemnly declare that Italy does not intend to drag other peoples who are her neighbours by sea and by land into the conflict. Let Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Egypt and Greece take note of these words of mine."—Mussolini, 10*th* *June* 1940.

Reproduced by permission of the Proprietors of "Punch."



THE GLORY THAT IS GREECE . . . . . THE GRANDEUR THAT WAS ROME

By courtesy of the "Daily Herald" and the Artist, George Whitelaw.

IT'S JUST GREEK TO HIM



By courtesy of the "Daily Mail" and the Artist, Illingworth.



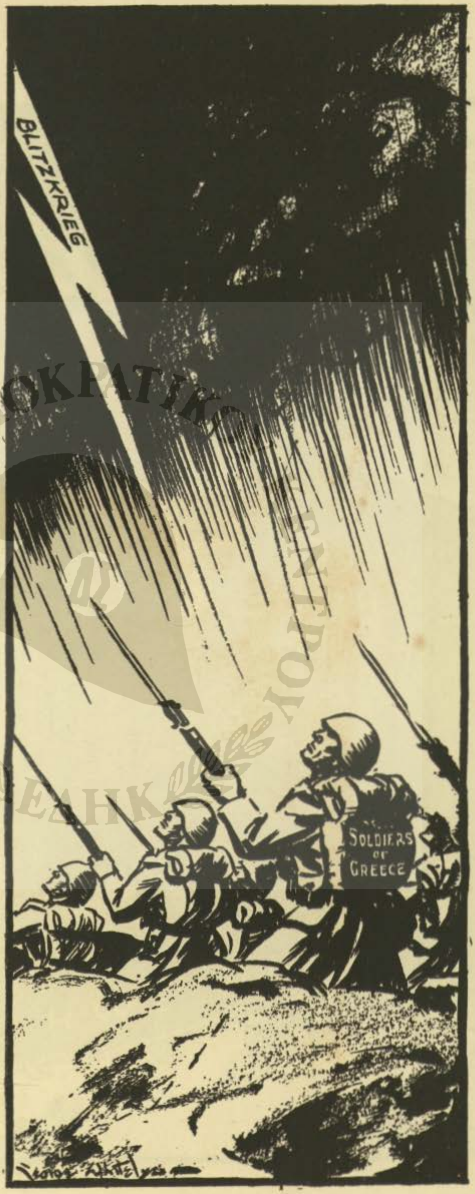
By courtesy of the "Daily Mirror" and the Artist, Zec.

BACK TO THE WALL



By courtesy of the "Daily Sketch" and the Artist, Clive Uptton.

SONS OF AJAX



By courtesy of the "Daily Herald" and the Artist, George Whitelaw.

CHAPTER II

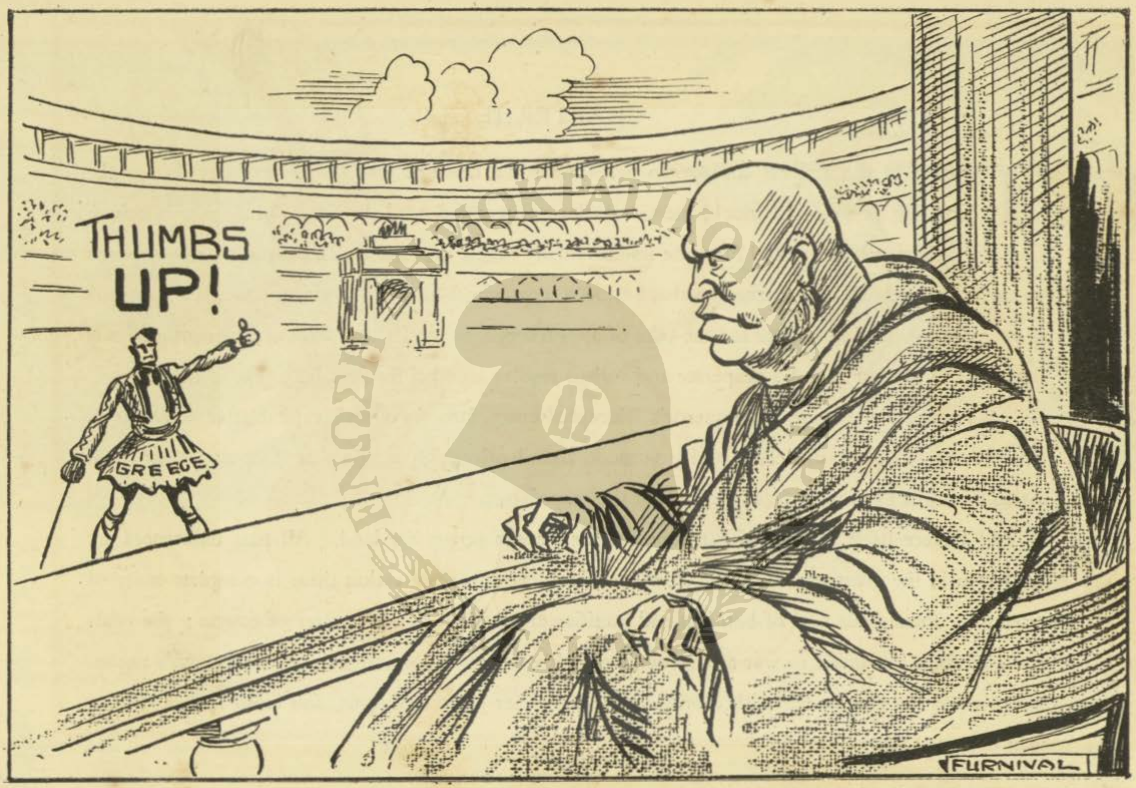
THOUGH the Italians manage to penetrate some distance into Greek territory during the first few days of the attack, the Greek line soon stiffens and the enemy's advance is halted.

To their mortification and fury, the Italians finally realise that the Greek people are not disposed to surrender without fight a freedom that has been won with blood and sacrifice. Greek opposition is no mere token of resistance for the sake of appearances, as the Italians were at first optimistically inclined to interpret it, but a desperate and valiant resolve to repel the invader or die in the effort.

Mussolini's dream of a conqueror's triumphal entry into the Greek capital after some slight skirmishing is rapidly dispelled, and it is made abundantly clear to him that if he means to reach Athens he will have to fight every inch of the way there.

In Greece itself a wave of patriotic fervour sweeps across the land. All past differences are forgotten in the greatness of the moment, and in every sphere of action there is complete unity of purpose. Prodigious acts of heroism and sacrifice are performed as a matter of course; the trials and sufferings inevitable to war are borne by all without a word of complaint or a moment's regret.

Greece has chosen the path destined for her by her great traditions, and from it she will not turn back nor falter.



By courtesy of the "Lancashire Daily Post" and the Artist, Furnival.



"We march together."—Mussolini

By courtesy of the "Daily Sketch" and the Artist, Clive Uptton.



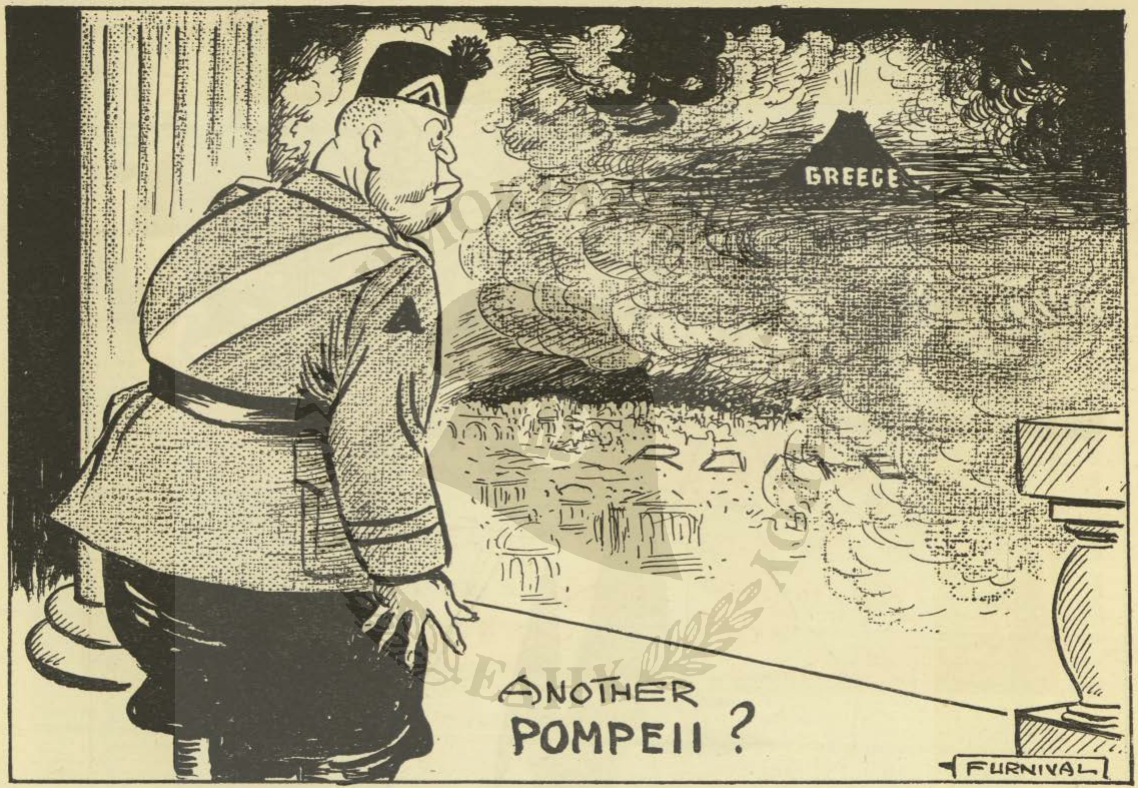
THE BURGLAR'S MATE

"I suppose you want me to come up and push you in."

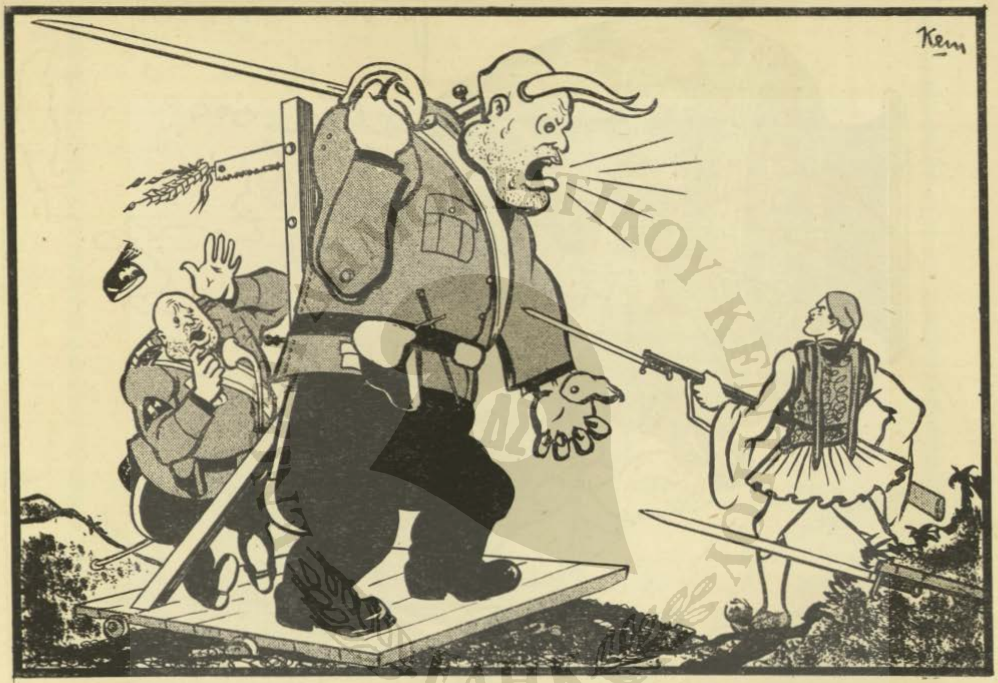
Reproduced by permission of the Proprietors of "Punch."



By courtesy of the "Daily Express" and the Artist, Strube.



By courtesy of the "Lancashire Daily Post" and the Artist, Furnival.



PRESENTING A BOLD FRONT

By courtesy of "Great Britain and the East" and the Artist, Kem.



HE THOUGHT IT WAS STILL LIFE

By courtesy of the "Daily Express" and the Artist, Strube.



By courtesy of the "Star" and the Artist, Wyndham Robinson.



"HELP! HERE'S ONE SHOWING FIGHT!"

By courtesy of the "Evening Standard" and the Artist, Low.

CHAPTER III

WITHIN a few days of the attack the situation is completely reversed. The Greek Army, having brought to a stop the Italian infiltration into Greek territory, now takes the initiative and holds it till the end. In less than three weeks from the outbreak of hostilities, the last remaining Italian on Greek soil is driven across the frontier whence he came.

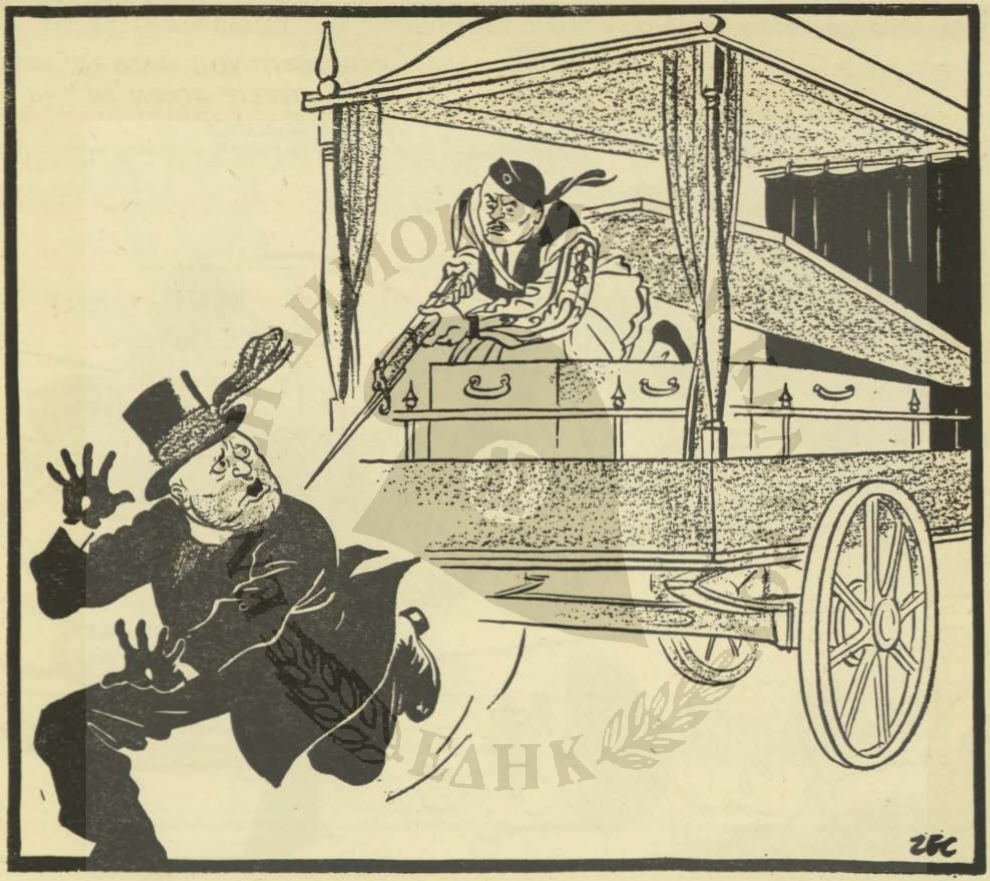
The campaign that follows is an epic that sends a thrill throughout the world. The few ill-equipped, ill-supplied, insufficiently armed soldiers of Hellas administer on the legions of Fascist Italy as resounding and complete a defeat as has ever been sustained by any power in the annals of war. On the 22nd of November 1940, just twenty-four days after the rejection of the Italian ultimatum, the Greek Army enters Koritza, the Italian H.Q. in the northern sector. A flotilla of Greek destroyers, led by the Greek Naval Commander-in-Chief in person, repeatedly penetrates the Straits of Otranto, bombards the Albanian coast and steams back invitingly at half-speed, throwing out a challenge that the Italian navy, safe in harbour, has not the courage to take up. The Royal Hellenic Air Force, hopelessly outnumbered by the Regia Aeronautica, roams the Albanian skies seeking the enemy and giving battle wherever it can find him.

Along the narrow passes and steep ravines of the Epirus the Italian army flees in disorder,

leaving thousands of prisoners, abandoning its equipment, always hotly pursued by the ever-advancing Greeks. Searching for scapegoats to safeguard his own crumbling prestige, Mussolini dismisses one general after another. The great Badoglio, anxious to preserve his military reputation, resigns the Supreme Command of the Italian Forces; in Albania, Soddu is replaced by Cavallero; de Vecchi goes from the Dodecanese; Cavagnari gives up the command of the ever-anchored Italian navy.

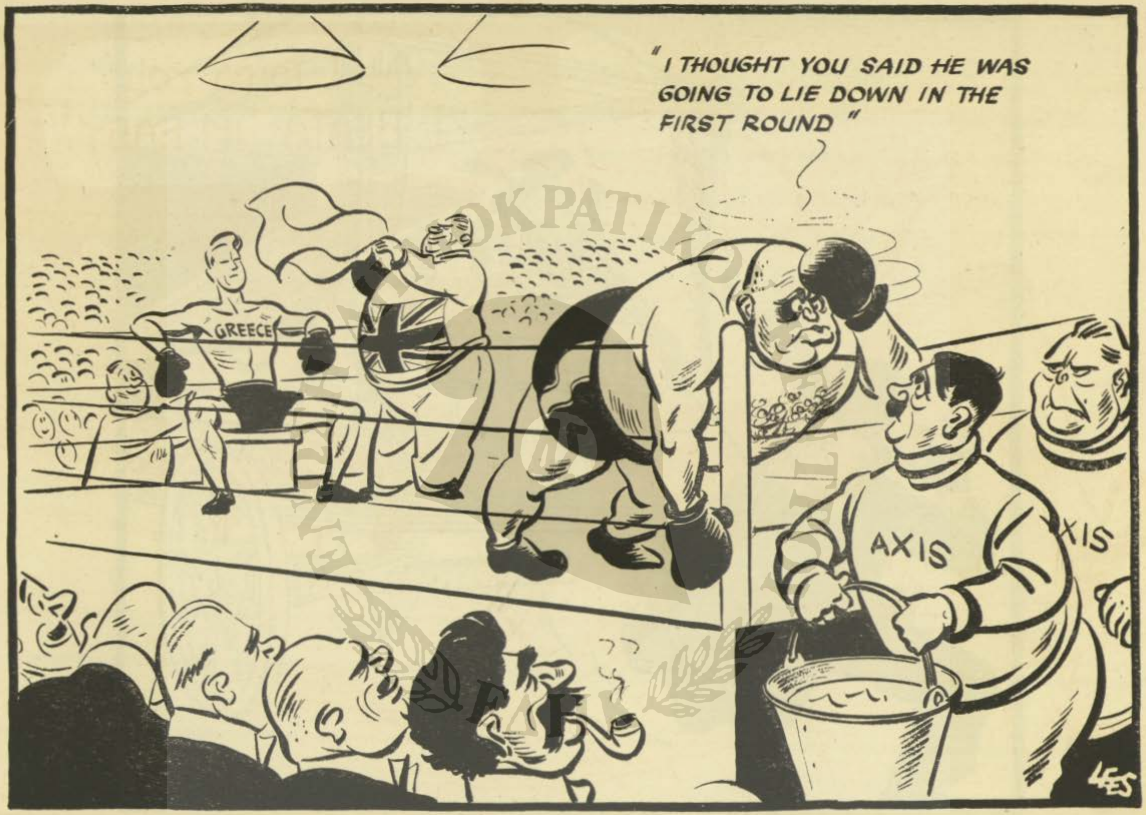
A splendid example is set by Greece to the waverers, and new hope runs through the enslaved peoples of Europe as the Fascist colossus, exposed by the Greek soldier as a hollow sham, topples over in ignominy and disgrace.

ΕΘΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΚΗ ΚΕΝΤΡΟΣ ΕΔΗΚ



" Very much alive, thank you "

By courtesy of the " Daily Mirror " and the Artist, Zec.



By courtesy of the "Sunday Graphic" and the Artist, Lees.



By courtesy of the "Lancashire Daily Post" and the Artist, Furnival.



" Help ! He's attacking me ! "

By courtesy of " Great Britain and the East " and the Artist, Kem.



By courtesy of the "News of the World" and the Artist, Wal Coop.



"Look, Adolf! I've got him on the run!"

By courtesy of the "Daily Herald" and the Artist, George Whitelaw.

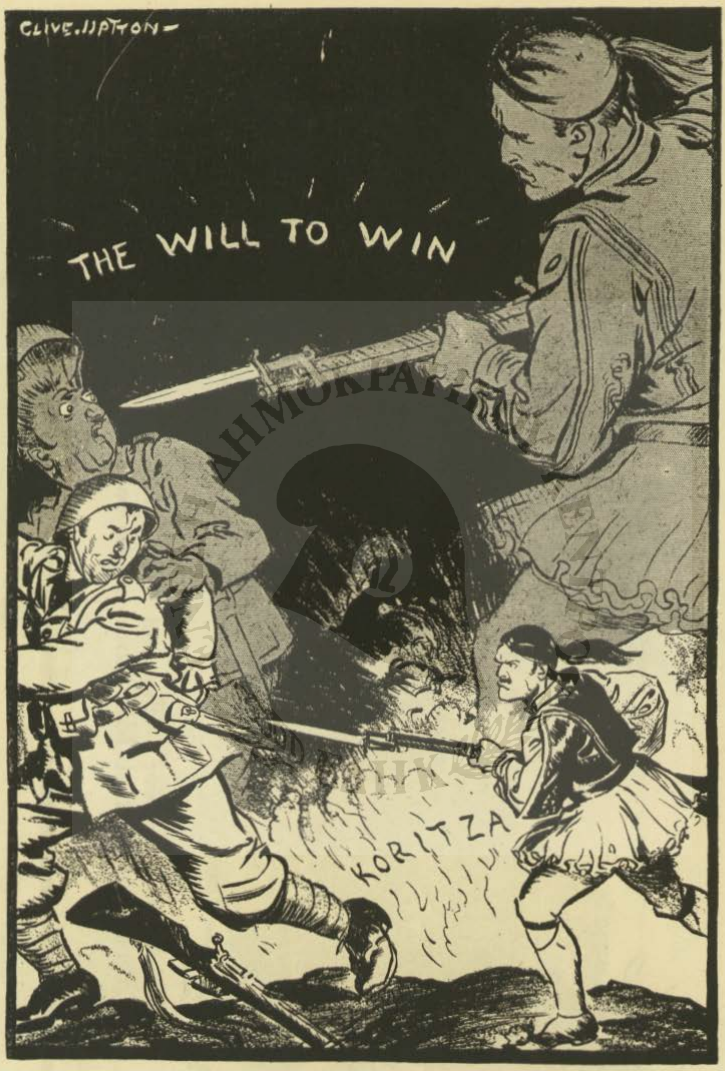


By courtesy of the "Daily Mail" and the Artist, Illingworth.



THE GREEKS IN THE PASS

Reproduced by permission of the Proprietors of "Punch."



THE QUALITY OF MAN

By courtesy of the "Daily Sketch"
. . . the Artist, Clive Upton.



EPIC

By courtesy of the "Manchester Evening News" and the Artist, Hengest.



ANOTHER BLOT ON THE ESCUTCHEON

By courtesy of the "Bristol Evening World" and the Artist.



THE WALK-OVER WAR . . .

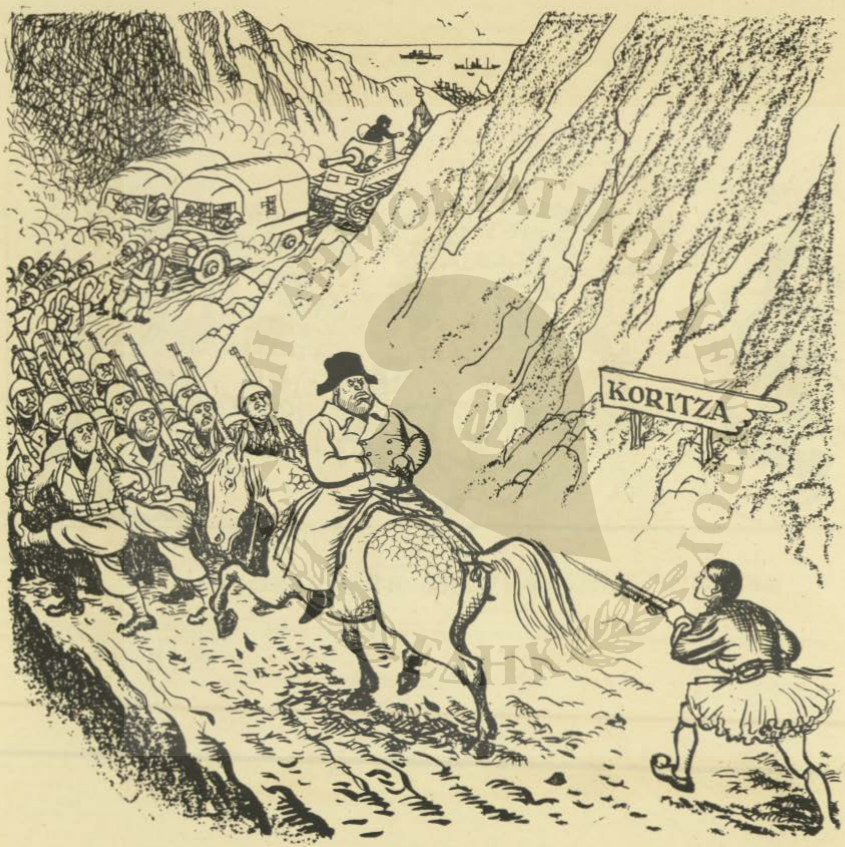
ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΚΟΥ ΠΝΕΥΜΑΤΟΣ ΕΔΗΚ



. . . RUNNING COMMENTARY BY MUSSOLINI

By courtesy of the "Daily Express" and the Artist, Strube.

ΕΔΗΚ



THE MARCH ON ALBANIA 1940

By courtesy of the "Daily Mail" and the Artist, Illingworth.



SPOIL OF THE HILLS

Reproduced by permission of the Proprietors of " Punch."

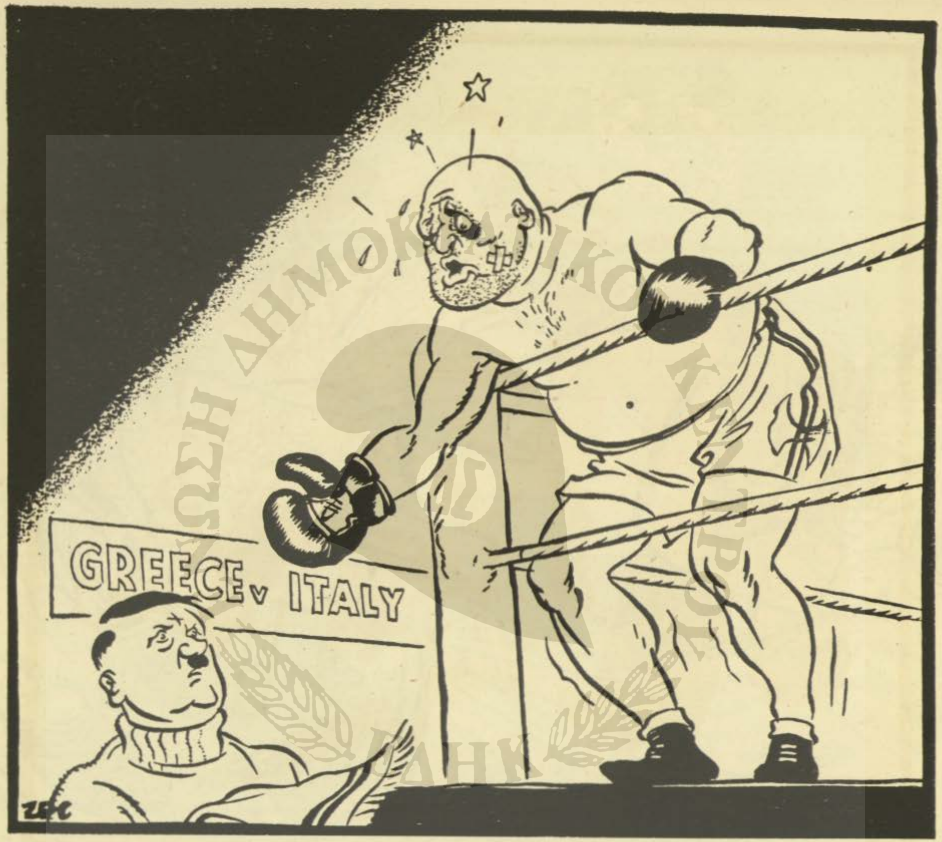


"It's all Greek to me!"

By courtesy of the "Daily Herald" and the Artist, George Whitelaw.



By courtesy of the "Daily Express" and the Artist, Strube.



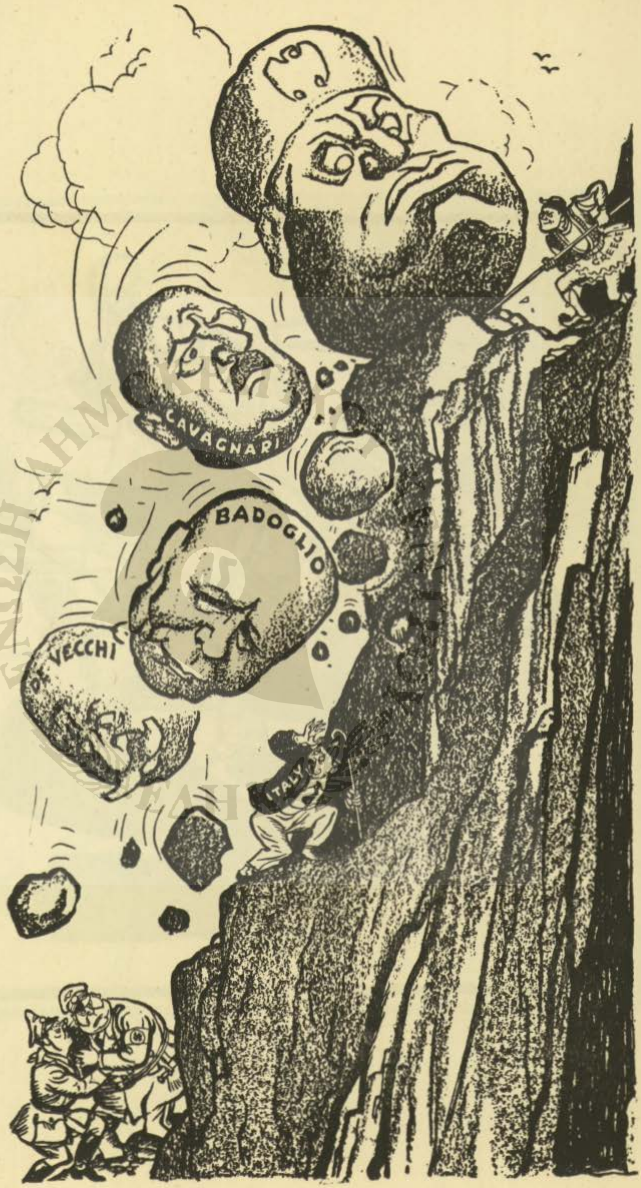
" Quick-a ! You betta getta da gun ! "

By courtesy of the " Daily Mirror " and the Artist, Zec.

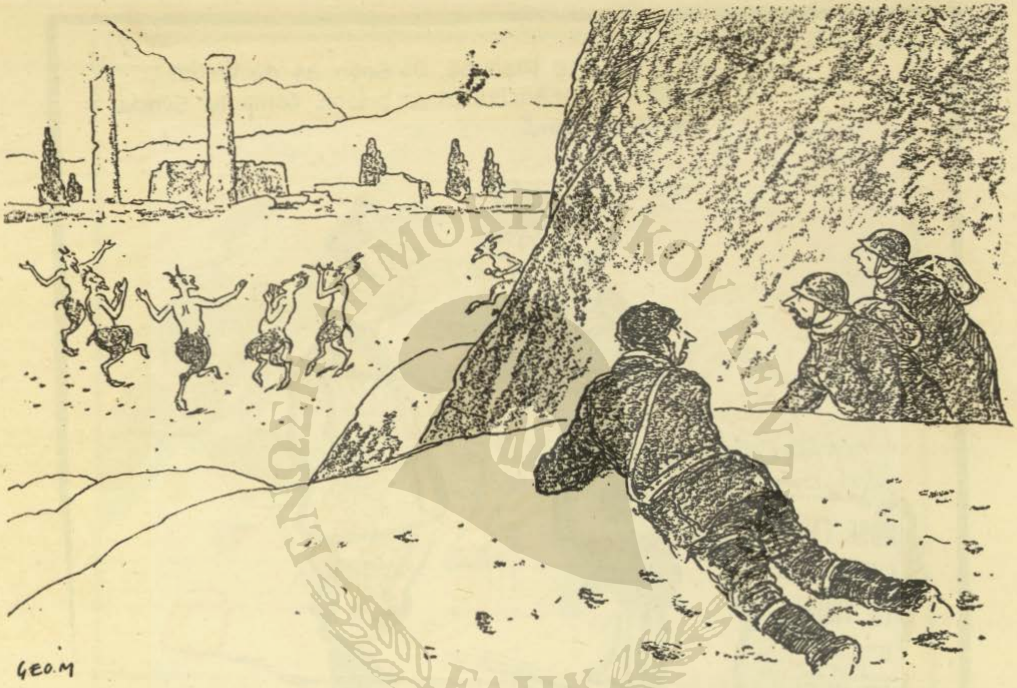


By courtesy of the "Star" and the Artist, Wyndham Robinson.

AVALANCHE



By courtesy of the "Daily Mail" and the Artist, Illingworth.



"There, Antonio, I told you this road would only take us back into Greece again"

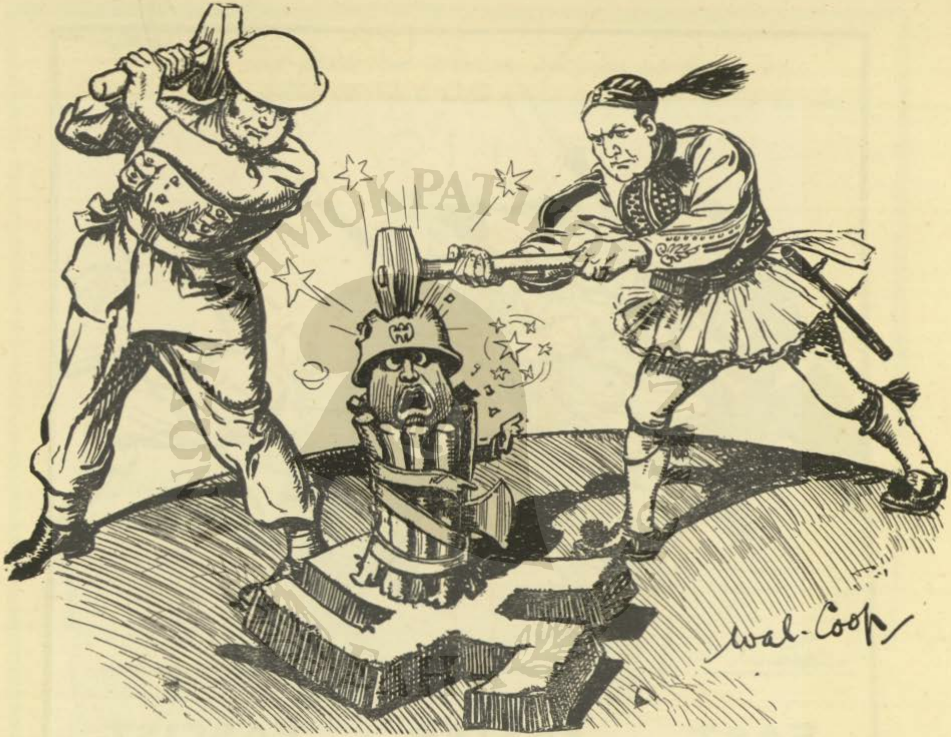
Reproduced by permission of the Proprietors of "Punch."



By courtesy of the "Star" and the Artist.



By courtesy of the "Daily Herald" and the Artist, George Whitelaw.



By courtesy of the "News of the World" and the Artist, Wal Coop.



By courtesy of "Time and Tide" and the Artist.



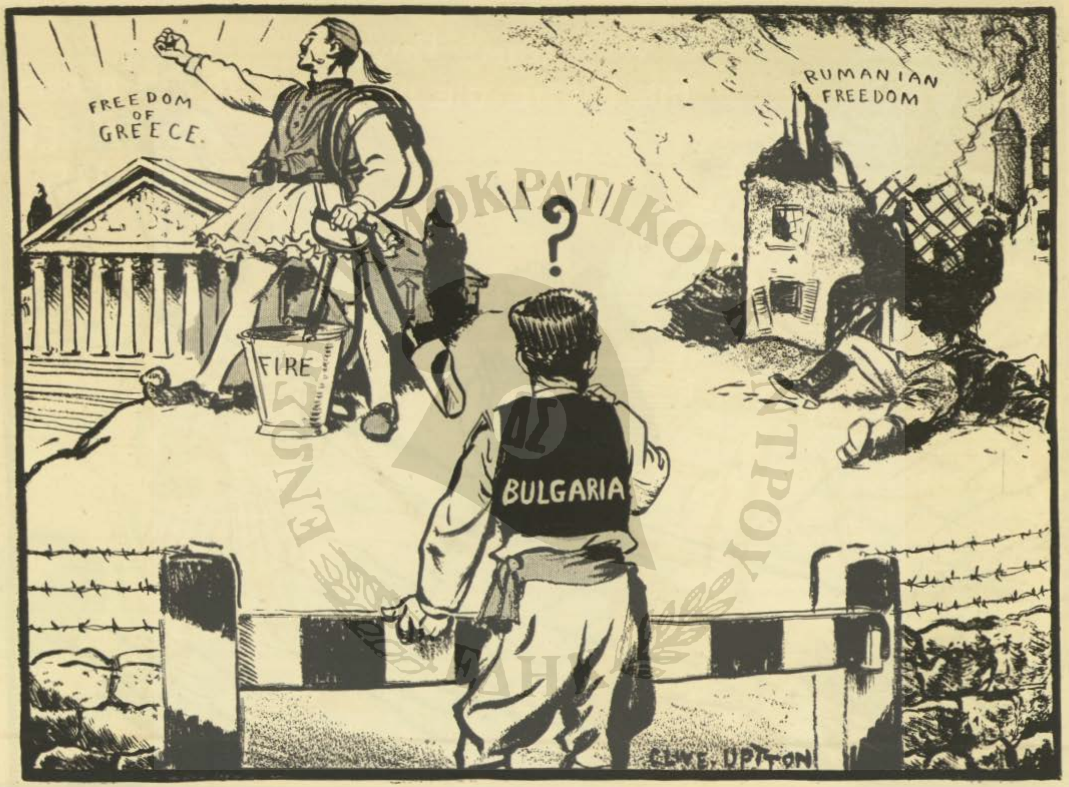
A RAY OF HOPE

By courtesy of the "Daily Mail" and the Artist, Illingworth.



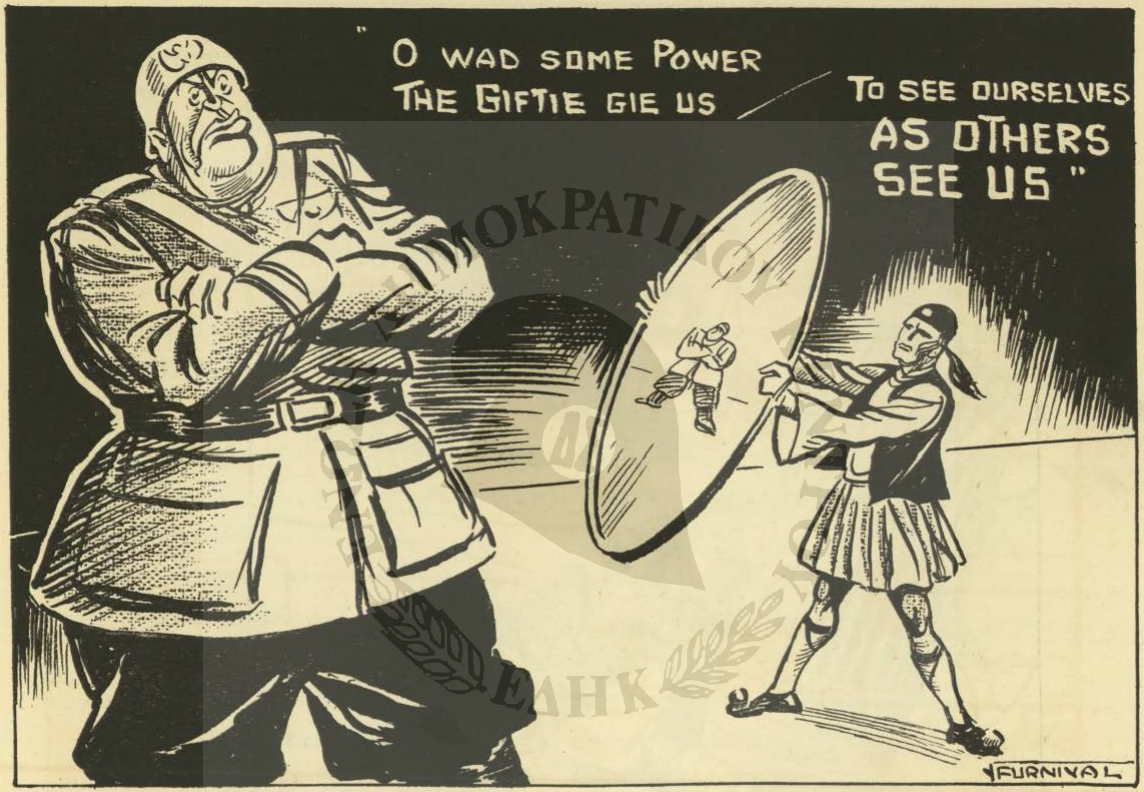
HMM....MAKES YOU THINK...

By courtesy of the "Evening Standard" and the Artist, Low.



THE PROSPECT

By courtesy of the "Daily Sketch" and the Artist, Clive Upton.



By courtesy of the "Lancashire Daily Post" and the Artist.



THE LEANING TOWER

By courtesy of the "Daily Express" and the Artist, Strube.

CHAPTER IV

MEANWHILE the storm-clouds gather over the Balkan sky. Hitler, his work finished in the West, is now ready to put into motion his great plan for the East—the attack on Russia. So the Greek affair must be terminated quickly.

On the 9th of March 1941, a great offensive, the most violent of the campaign, is launched by the Italians over a twenty-mile front. Tanks, aeroplanes, mountain artillery, infantry, everything the Italians have is thrown into the attack; Mussolini himself directs the operations safe behind the lines in an armoured train. For seven days the Italian army makes one last frantic attempt to retrieve its lost prestige; but at the end of the week the Greeks have inflicted appalling casualties on the enemy, captured thousands of prisoners, and have not only stood their ground everywhere but have actually advanced at several points.

It is now clear that Italy alone is no match for the Greeks, and German intervention is inevitable. Attractive peace proposals emanating from Berlin reach the Greeks, who refuse to be duped and reaffirm plainly that only when Italy has been expelled from the Balkan Peninsula will they lay down their arms. There is complete unanimity on that point; Greece has no Fifth Column.

Direct pressure is brought to bear on Greece through Yugoslavia, whose weakling rulers join

the Axis—only to be overthrown two days later when a wave of indignant revulsion stirs the Yugoslav people into revolt.

But there is still one way left to Germany—Bulgaria.

The Balkan traitor willingly throws in his lot with the Axis. Against Axis promises of territorial aggrandisement, eagerly grasping another opportunity of striking at their Slav and Greek neighbours, the Bulgars open wide their frontiers to the German armies. The Luftwaffe can now take off from Bulgarian soil to bomb Salonica and Belgrade, the panzer divisions can invade Greece and Yugoslavia over the Bulgarian frontier.

The slimy shadow of the swastika falls across the rocky mountains and fertile valleys of the last stronghold of freedom in Europe. Greece, faced with invasion for the second time within six months, remains calm and resolute. "This little nation," writes a Greek journalist in an Open Letter to Hitler that voices the sentiments of the whole people—"this little nation which has taught all other nations how to live, will now teach them how to die." The Greek Premier, wiring to the Minister in London, instructs him to stress that "in the event of an attack Greece will for certain resist to the end, even if she remain alone."

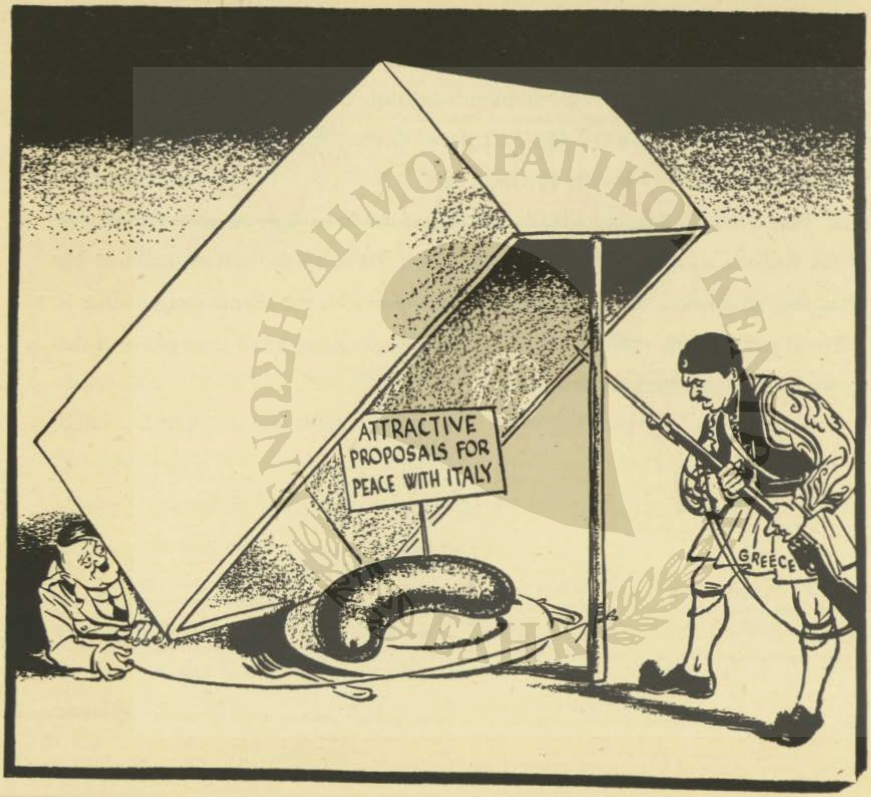
But Greece does not remain alone. When on the 6th of April 1941 the German army strikes, a British Expeditionary Force is there, by the side of the soldiers of Greece, to meet the common enemy. Greek, Briton and Yugoslav, brothers in arms, face the full might of the German war machine.

The Yugoslavs are caught unprepared; their communications destroyed, their capital razed to the ground, their forces dispersed on many frontiers, they are soon overcome in spite of their heroic resistance. The Greek soldiers manning the frontier forts, completely surrounded by the enemy, continue to return his fire until their ammunition is exhausted, and then blow up their forts with themselves inside them. And down the whole length of Greece, fighting inch by inch all the way, the Allies make the Germans pay heavily for their gains.

In the historic Pass of Thermopylæ, where twenty-five centuries ago another handful of Greeks have held the barbarians, Briton and Greek give battle. The spirits of Leonidas and his Lacedæmonians, standing guard over the Warm Gates, nod approval at the titanic struggle that is unfolding itself below; and over the clash of battle is heard the soft murmur of their praise at the epic deeds of their sons and their brothers from Albion.

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΕΔΗΚ

POISONED BOLONEY



By courtesy of the "Daily Mirror" and the Artist, Zec.



"You see, we put the fifth one away for the duration"

By courtesy of the "Star" and the Artist, Joss.



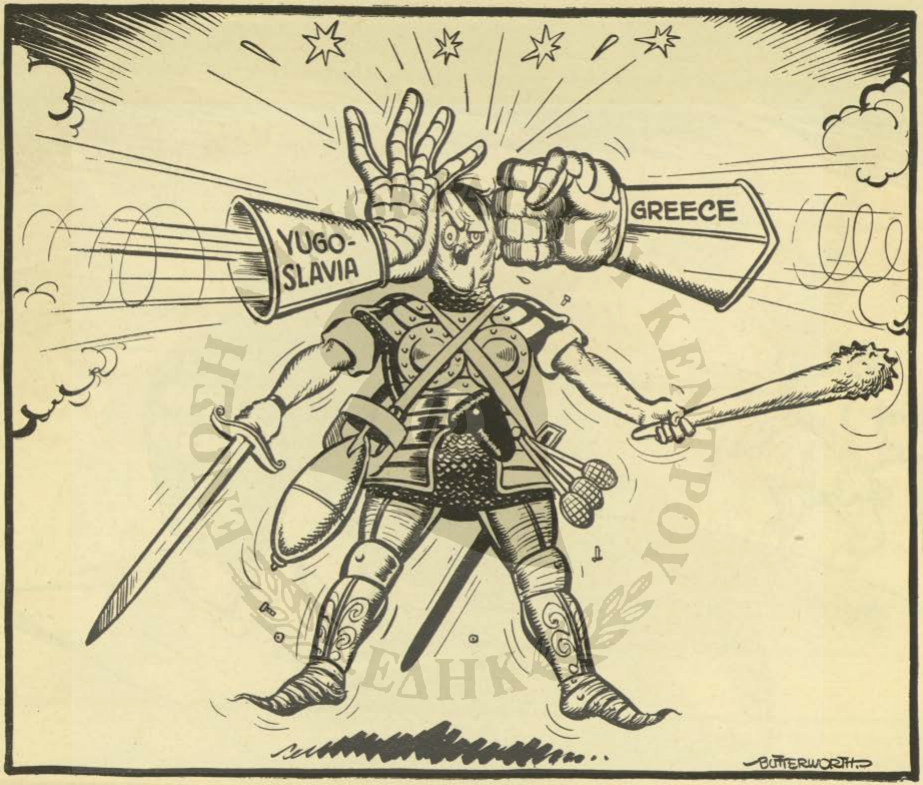
INACTION IS DEATH

By courtesy of the "Daily Sketch" and the Artist, Clive Uptton.



A STAB IN THE BACK

By courtesy of the "Yorkshire Observer" and the Artist, Middleton.



RETURNING THE GAUNTLETS

By courtesy of the "Manchester Daily Dispatch" and the Artist, Butterworth.

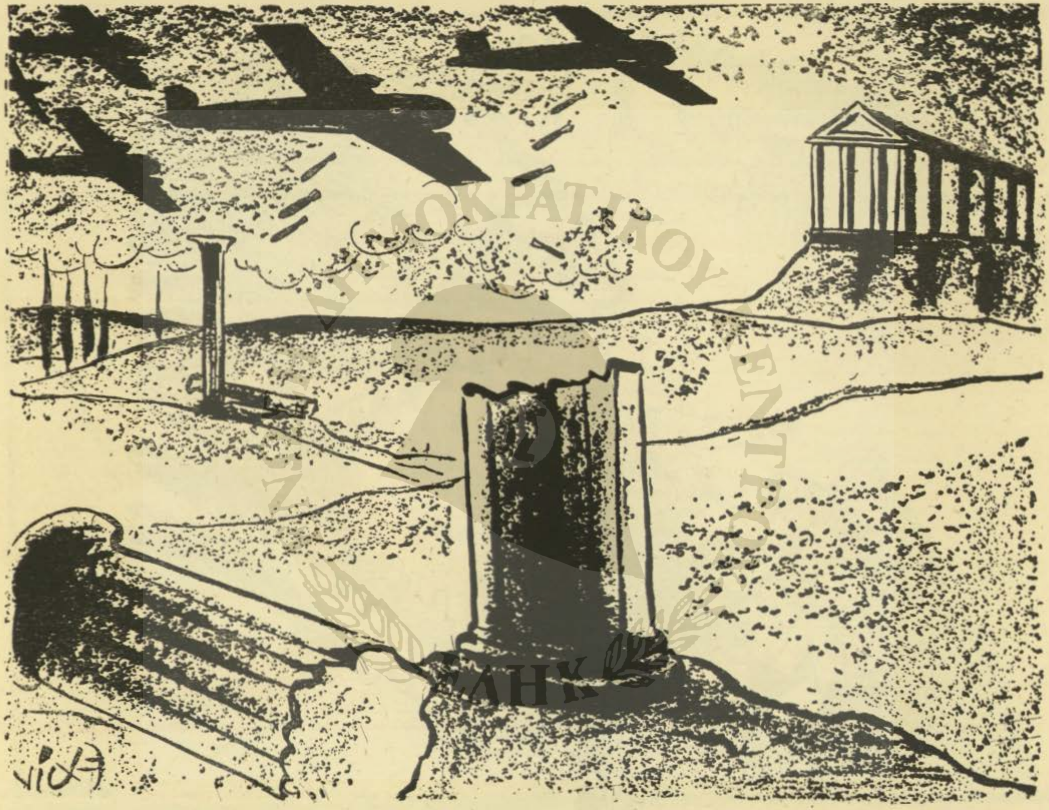


By courtesy of the "Daily Mail" and the Artist, Illingworth.

ΕΔΗΚ



By courtesy of the "Daily Express" and the Artist, Strube.

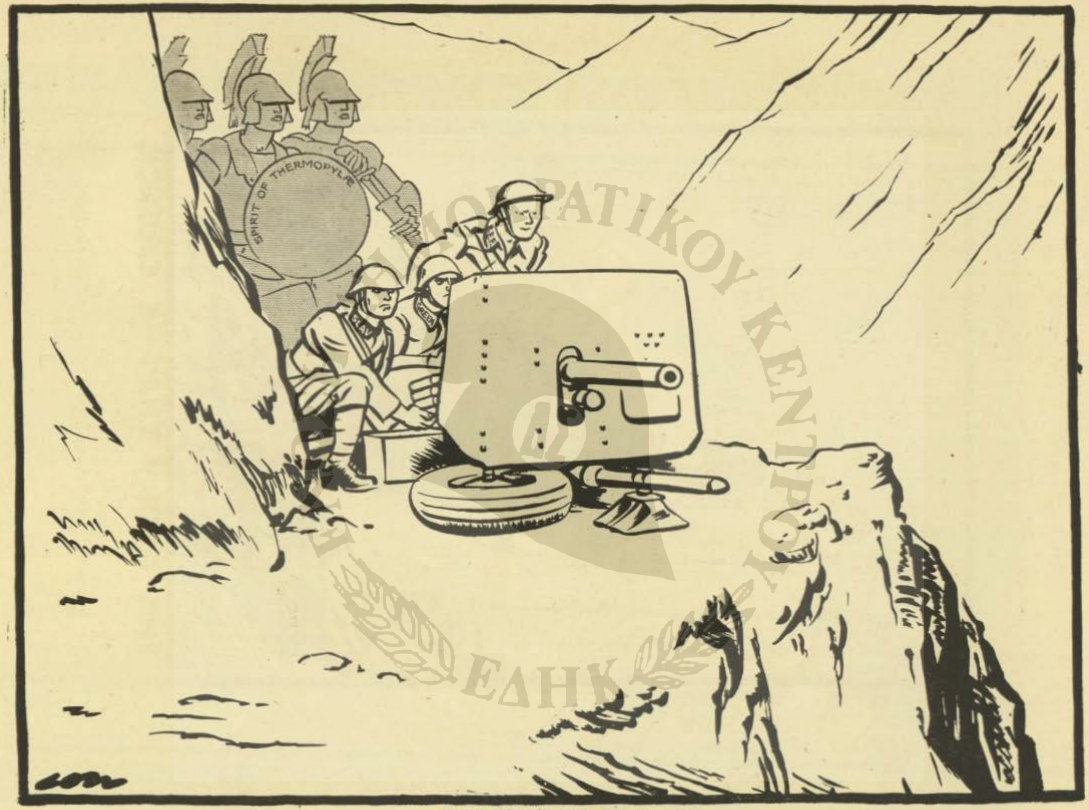


KULTUR COMES TO GREECE

By courtesy of the "News Chronicle" and the Artist, Vicky.

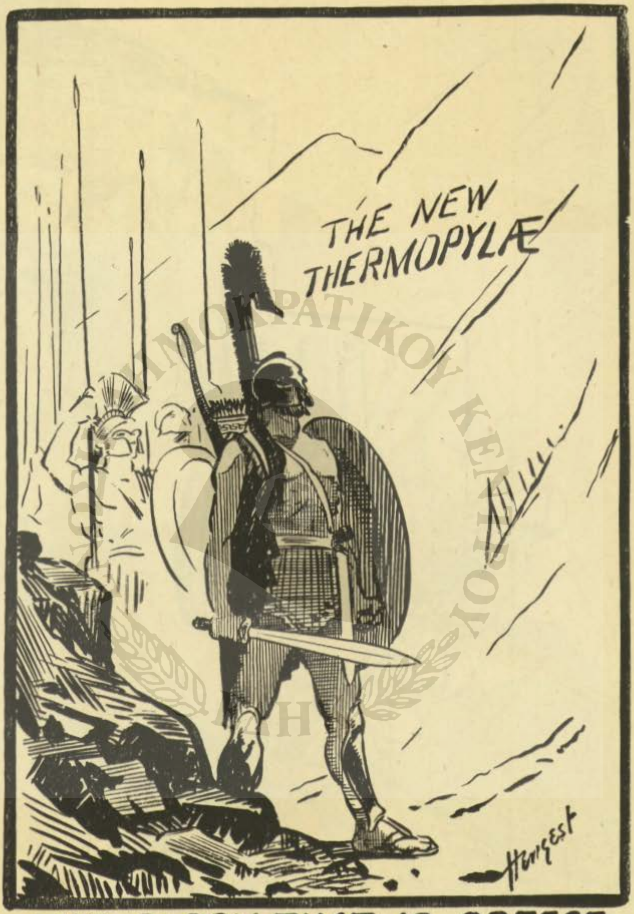


By courtesy of the "Daily Mail" and the Artist, Illingworth.



COMRADES THREE

By courtesy of the "Evening Standard" and the Artist, Low.



THE GLORY THAT IS GREECE

By courtesy of the "Manchester Evening News" and the Artist, Hengest.



THE SPIRIT OF THE PASS

By courtesy of the "Lancashire Daily Post" and the Artist Furnival.



AFTER THERMOPYLÆ

Reproduced by permission of the Proprietors of "Punch."

CHAPTER V

THE battle is over. Overwhelmed by sheer weight of metal and vast superiority of numbers, Greece succumbs. The Italians at last enter Greece, whose gaolers they have now been appointed by Hitler.

But though German tanks patrol the streets of Athens and the swastika defiles the summit of the Acropolis, it is to Greece that the world awards the victor's laurels.

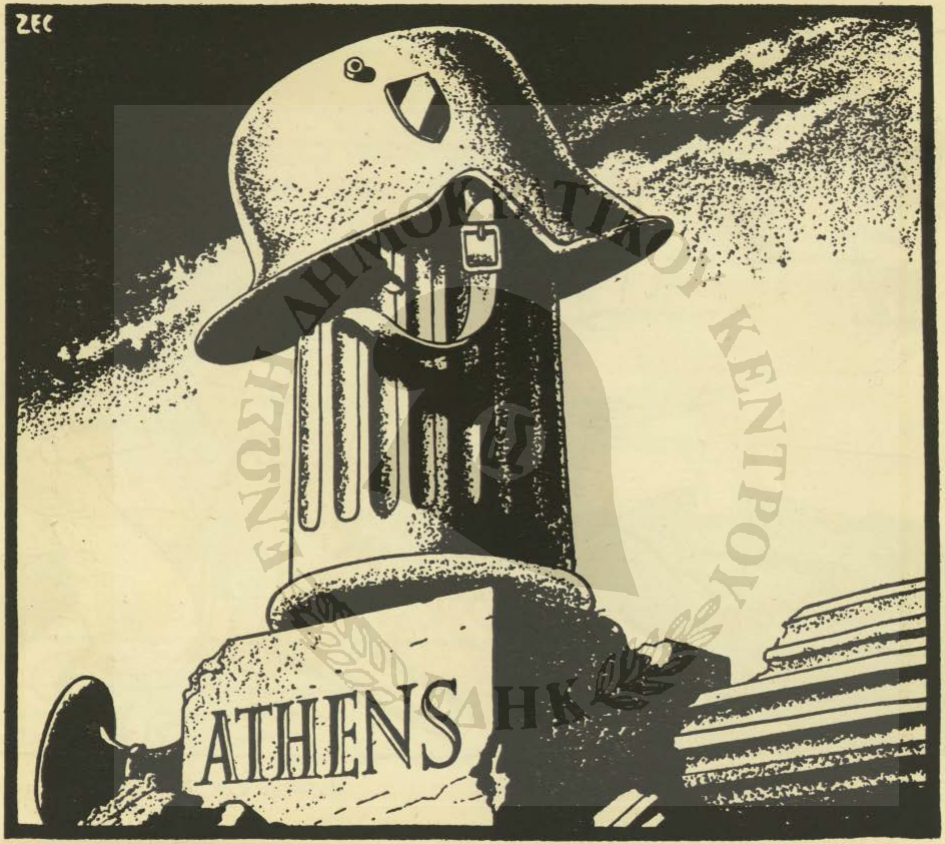
Among the snows of the Epirus and in the forts of Thrace, in Macedonia's fields and the mountains of Crete, the sons of Hellas have died for liberty. They have earned for themselves the right to dwell on Olympus, among the Immortals.

ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΚΟ ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΕΔΗΚ



HIS DEEDS WILL LIVE FOR EVER—HIS COUNTRY WILL LIVE AGAIN

By courtesy of the "Daily Herald" and the Artist, George Whitelaw.



Kultur Comes to Greece!

By courtesy of the "Daily Mirror" and the Artist, Zec.



By courtesy of the "Daily Express" and the Artist, Strube.



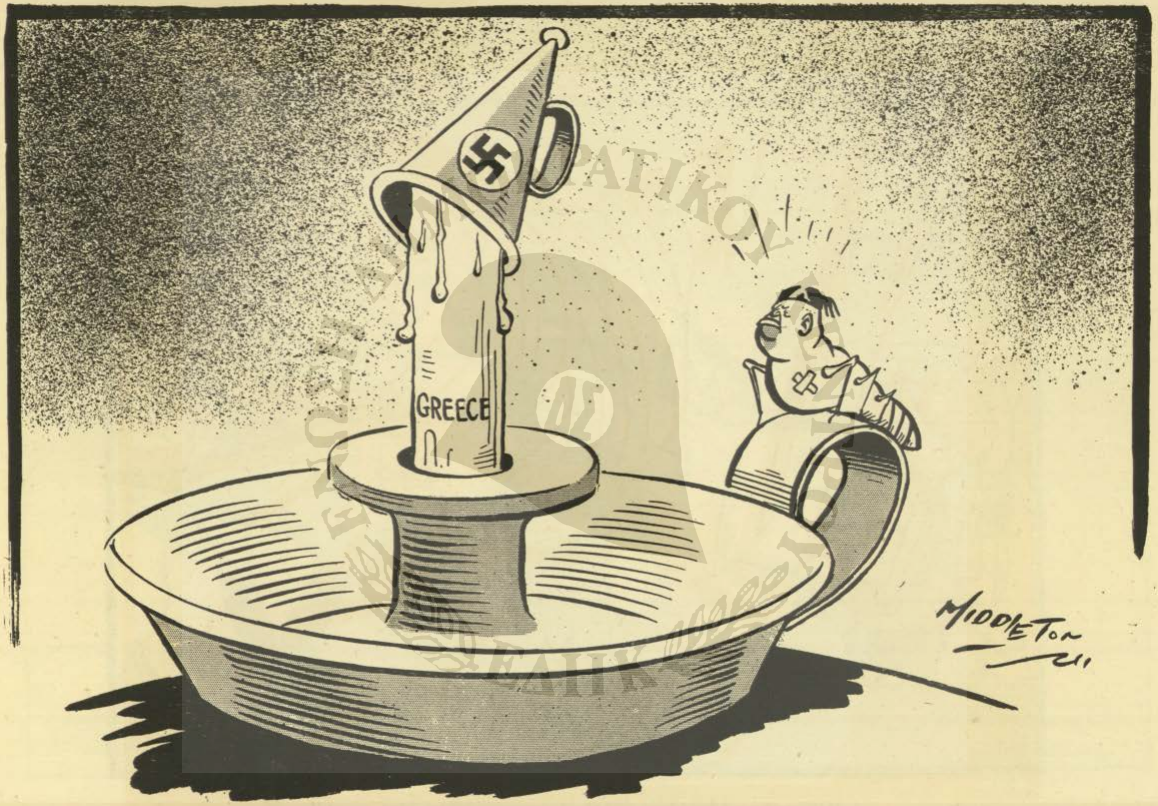
CÆSAR'S ENTRY INTO ATHENS

By courtesy of "Great Britain and the East" and the Artist, Kem.



The Conquering Heel of Fascism!

By courtesy of the "Daily Mirror" and the Artist, Zec.



THE WINGLESS MOTH RETURNS

By courtesy of the "Nottingham Journal" and the Artist, Middleton.



" Thanks, Adolf ! I think I can manage him now "

By courtesy of the " Manchester Daily Dispatch " and the Artist, Butterworth.



EVERY DOG HAS HIS DAY

By courtesy of the "Lancashire Daily Post" and the Artist, Furnival.



By courtesy of the "Star" and the Artist, Wyndham Robinson.



"I caught it—you keep it!"

By courtesy of the "Daily Mirror" and the Artist, Zec.



By courtesy of the "Birmingham Gazette" and the Artist, Middleton.



By courtesy of the "News of the World" and the Artist, J. C. Walker.



By courtesy of "Time and Tide" and the Artist, Vicky.



AMONG THE IMMORTALS

By courtesy of the "Daily Express" and the Artist, Strube.

ΕΝΩΣΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΚΟΥ ΚΕΝΤΡΟΥ
ΕΔΗΚ