

NATO to Build \$263 Million Installations

By SEYMOUR TOPPING
PARIS (U) — The North Atlantic Council announced Tuesday it plans to spend \$263,000,000 in 1956 on building military airfields and other installations for defense of Western Europe.

The 15-nation council agreed to devote \$108,400,000 of the total to the "infrastructure program in Germany, primarily in implementation of the forward strategy for the development of airfields."

"Infrastructure is the name given to the vast system of airfields, fuel pipelines, ports and other installations which NATO forces require to carry out their defense mission. The Atlantic Council has earmarked \$2,900,000,000 to the infrastructure program over the last five years."

Reviewing the whole program, Lord Ismay, the NATO secretary general, said in a statement that the council has put 140 airfields in readiness under the new forward strategy — the policy of maintaining the defense line along the fringe of the Iron Curtain. He added:

"The member countries of NATO have endorsed the so-called forward scatter system for telecommunications and early warning developed in Canada and the United States and are adopting this technique for the NATO European telecommunications."

"The naval base program under infrastructure, including some 30 individual projects is also well under way."

The planned expenditure of \$263,000,000 in 1956 is the third annual allocation from the 700 million dollar program laid down by the council in April 1953.

Pipe-Smoking Woman Near Century Mark

(Picture on Wirephoto Page)

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (U) — Mrs. Nancy Arthusia Robey, a keen-eyed pipe-smoking woman who is nearing her 100th birthday, has absolutely no prescription to offer for long life.

As a matter of fact, Mrs. Robey seems almost unimpressed with her century of life, and, when asked the traditional question about her secret for longevity, replied:

"Oh, I don't know—have I lived so long?"

Mrs. Robey then turned to a newsmen and stated, "You look like you might live to be 100—I guess some people just ought to live to be 100."

Although she disapproves of dancing ("I'd rather go to church than dance") she has allowed herself the pleasure of a pipeful of tobacco since she was 18 years old.

"I smoke it three or four times a day," she said.

As times have changed, so has Mrs. Robey. She now watches television frequently — and without spectacles.

Now she's thinking about going up in an airplane.

Mrs. Robey also is an avid reader, keeping up with both magazine articles and the morning and afternoon newspapers, also without glasses.

She likes to talk about the Civil War days, and tells the story about the time the Confederate soldiers came to their Hancock County, Ky. home.

"My dad hid his fine horse from the soldiers when they came," she relates.

Although she isn't too impressed about her long life, Mrs. Robey is happy that the century mark will be celebrated on July 4.

"They'll wave the flag on my birthday," she smiled.

Eden Kept Busy On 59th Birthday

LONDON (U) — Prime Minister Eden celebrated his 59th birthday Tuesday but was too busy to take much more than passing note of the fact.

His staff at No. 10 Downing St. put flowers on his desk and there was a stack of congratulatory messages. But they had to wait while he presided over a cabinet meeting and prepared his replies to the daily questions in the House of Commons.

Russians Release 22 Jap Fishermen

TOKYO (U) — Twenty-two Japanese fishermen returned here Monday night from Russian detention.

Twenty of the men were crew members of boats which ran aground off the Russian Kurile Islands early this month. The remaining two were skippers of boats seized by the Russians off the Kuriles late last month.

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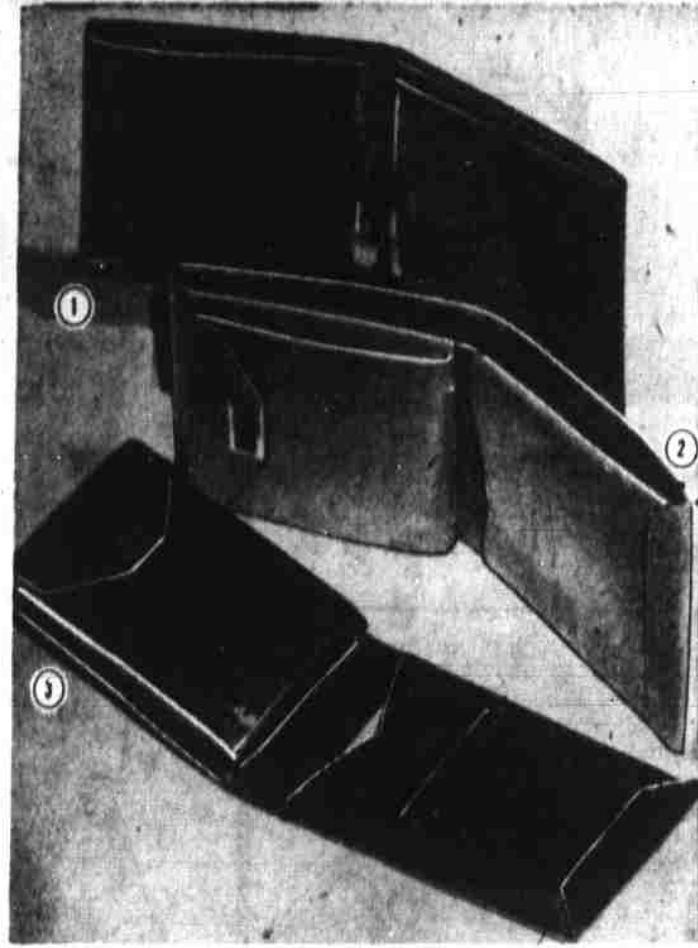
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