

French Premier Wins Support

Assembly Backs Domestic Program

PARIS (AP) — The French National Assembly Tuesday approved by a massive majority Premier Pierre Mendes-France's economic and financial recovery program.

The deputies not only gave Mendes-France a new vote of confidence but also accorded him large special powers to deal with France's financial situation until March 31, 1955.

362 TO 90 TALLY

It was another victory for the Premier who was given the premiership almost two months ago on a three-fold program of reaching a truce in Indochina, working out compromise on EDC and giving France's economy a thorough going over.

The unofficial tally gave the vote as 362 to 90.

The Communists, who had previously supported Mendes-France, voted against him Tuesday. But he picked up the votes of many previously hostile members of the Popular Republican Movement.

A truce in Indochina has been achieved. The French cabinet is slated to take up Tuesday night the tough question of this country's approval of the European defense Community treaty prior to a meeting of EDC participants in Brussels on Aug. 10.

FOUR GOALS

These are the general goals of Mendes-France's economic program:

1. Opening the way for more competition within France and lowering trade restrictions in Europe.
2. Reconvert enterprises with high production costs to other types of products.
3. Expanding industrial and agricultural production, at the same time finding new markets for the extra production.
4. Spurring housing construction.

India Okays Investigation

NEW DELHI, India (AP)—India agreed Tuesday to Portugal's proposal for a six-nation on-the-spot investigation into the two nations' bitter dispute over Goa and the other two Portuguese colonies on the Indian West Coast.

The Lisbon government suggested Monday that each country ask three neutral nations to send four observers each to look into a situation which Foreign Minister Dr. Paulo Cunha warned "may lead to much bloodshed and war."

Prime Minister Nehru's government handed a reply to the Portuguese minister here Tuesday, asking Lisbon to nominate its choices immediately for such an investigation.

Under the proposal, the observers would "investigate freely," both in Portuguese and Indian territory. The six nations would be chosen from countries with which both India and Portugal maintain diplomatic relations.

Tension in the little Portuguese pockets has mounted in recent weeks as the Indians have pressed to bring Goa, Damao and the little island of Diu under the Indian flag. The territories, totaling about 1,500 square miles and 640,000 people, have been Portuguese for more than 400 years and Lisbon has refused to give them up.

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IN RUMORED ROMANCE — This picture of Princess Margaret and Colin Tennant, whom the London Express said is now Margaret's "constant companion," is the latest available of the couple together, and was taken in July, 1949, when they appeared at a London charity ball. Princess Margaret spent this weekend as the guest of Tennant's parents in their Innerleithen, Scotland, home.

American Ships Ready To Transport Refugees

HANOI, Indochina (AP) — The United States backed up its promise of aid to free Viet Nam Tuesday with American Navy transports to evacuate thousands from the future domain of the Vietnamese Communists.

An unspecified number of American transports arrived in Haiphong, north Indochina's chief seaport, Monday night to begin transfer of Vietnamese civilians seeking to escape to South Viet Nam.

They came in the wake of Washington's announcement that the U.S. government had agreed to South Viet Nam Premier Ngo Dinh Diem's request for help in speeding up the transfer of more than 100,000 refugees from the northern areas ceded to the Vietnamese under the Geneva cease-fire agreement.

The U.S. reply, delivered in Saigon Monday by Ambassador Donald Heath, promised American help also in "enabling the refugees . . . to resume existence

under their chosen government."

"The United States will expect the maximum cooperation of the government of Viet Nam . . ."

The American economic mission in Saigon also has asked Washington for 15 two-engine transport planes and 4 four-engine planes to swell the Hanoi-to-Saigon airlift.

Emboldened by the American promise of help, the Viet Nam government announced that it planned to evacuate several hundred thousand refugees within 30 days instead of over a 10-month period as originally planned. Officials have grown increasingly alarmed at the inroads which Vietminh propaganda and threats have been making in the ranks of previously anti-Communist Vietnamese in the north.

As a starter, the Saigon government said it hoped to move 100,000 civilians — 120,000 from Hanoi and the rest from Haiphong — by Aug. 15.

Blast Opens Seaway Work

MASSENA, N.Y. (AP) — A blast of dynamite Tuesday signalled the start of construction on the 600-million-dollar St. Lawrence River hydroelectric power project, a 50-year dream come true.

New York state and Canada's province of Ontario, which will share the cost of the vast development, held "ground breaking" ceremonies on both sides of the unguarded border.

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey flew here from New York City to take part with other American and Canadian officials in the ceremonies, which attracted an estimated 10,000 persons on each side of the river. At tiny Polleys Bay, facing the sites for the Ammot Long Salt Dam and Barnhardt Island powerhouse, they triggered a charge of explosives that went off on the island, to mark the start of construction.

Gangster Seeks 'Peace of Mind'

CHICAGO (AP) — "I'm just looking for peace of mind . . . No, I'm not thinking of revenge . . . When you've been in the penitentiary for as long as I have, you forget about revenge."

These were some of the comments Monday of Roger (the Terrible) Touhy, one of the nation's top gang leaders in the Prohibition era, who had just won his freedom from prison.

CAPONE ENEMY

The 55-year-old gray-haired Touhy, one-time arch gang foe of the late Al Capone, had served more than 20 years in Stateville Prison for a kidnapping which Federal Judge John P. Barnes termed a hoax.

Touhy was sentenced in 1934 to 99 years in prison for the kidnapping in 1933 of John (Jake the Barber) Factor, once internationally known confidence man. He received an additional 199 years for his part in his escape from prison with five other convicts in 1942.

But Judge Barnes ruled that Touhy had no part in the "alleged" kidnapping, which he said was a hoax engineered by Factor to forestall his extradition to England to face prosecution for a confidence game charge.

Factor, starting in 1942, served six years of a 10-year federal sentence for a million-dollar whiskey warehouse receipts fraud. Judge Barnes, in granting Touhy a writ of habeas corpus, said the one-time beer baron's conviction was procured by perjured testimony. He said Circuit Judge Thomas A. Courtney, who was state's attorney at the time of Touhy's kidnapping trial, "Must

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McNutt Low Bidder On Big Grading Job

Earl L. McNutt, Eugene contractor, was apparent low bidder Monday on the largest grading job in the history of the Oregon State Highway Commission, according to the United Press.

McNutt bid \$1,251,712 for preparing a new roadbed for about 18 1/2 miles of the Old Oregon trail highway between Huntington and Ontario in eastern Oregon.

The job will require moving about 3,500,000 cubic yards of earth.

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