

# Uneasy Truce In South Viet Nam

By JOHN RODERICK  
SAIGON, South Viet Nam (AP)—Premier Ngo Dinh Diem's Nationalist forces and Binh Xuyen former river pirates maintained an uneasy truce today in South Viet Nam's "little civil war."

The truce was arranged by Gen. Paul Ely, French commissioner-general, in talks with the premier and 12 representatives of Gen. Le Van Vien, Binh Xuyen commander and once czar of Saigon's organized vice.

The truce went into effect at 7 p.m. Wednesday for 24 hours to give tempers time to cool before negotiations start for a firmer settlement.

Saigon was quiet in the wake of clashes early Wednesday between government forces and mobile units of Binh Xuyen's private army that left at least 26 dead and 112 wounded.

The French expeditionary force took over protection of the French section. About 17,000 foreigners, including members of diplomatic, military, and economic missions, live in the French section. No foreigners were reported wounded in the fighting.

# St. Laurent Optimistic Economy Is On Upswing

OTTAWA (CP)—Prime Minister St. Laurent said Wednesday night that the recent upswing in the United States economy may indicate another period of full steam ahead in Canada.

He said unemployment and other current problems represent temporary adjustments in Canada's basically sound economic machine.

In a brief reference to the international situation, the prime minister said the world remains on a precipice of the increasing strength of the free world.

He spoke at a banquet winding up a three-day meeting here of the advisory council of the National Liberal Federation.

His statements were included in notes of a speech issued to the press before delivery.

Mr. St. Laurent said current grave international problems threaten the very existence of Canadians. The required defence build up to meet the threat absorbed 40 per cent of the national budget and prevented total energies being devoted to development of resources and to perfecting social services.

# Double Murder And Suicide

EDMONTON, (CP)—Police said a 30-year-old mother apparently shot and killed her husband and infant son as they slept early Tuesday in a downtown suite. Then she shot herself twice, the second fatally.

The bodies of Yvonne Jensen, Alfred Jensen, and 15-month-old son, Ronald, were discovered by the woman's elderly father, George Anton, proprietor of a next-door cafe. The 70-year-old man found the bodies when investigating a 45-calibre bullet he discovered lodged in a bathroom wall of his cafe. He was taken to hospital suffering shock.

# President Deplores Talk Of War; Rebukes Admiral

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower has administered an oblique rebuke to Admiral Robert B. Carney with a declaration that too much speculation about war does not serve world peace and tranquility.

Carney, chief of U.S. naval operations, has been named as the source of predictions that war may start in the Formosa strait around April 15.

To prophesy when a war is going to break out, Eisenhower told a press conference Wednesday, is to assume an accuracy of information never yet attained by a country that was to be attacked.

The president said he cannot say, because he doesn't know, that there will not be an attack from April 15 onward on the Nationalist-held Matsu islands, off the Chinese mainland.

# St. Lawrence River Not Ready For Navigation

QUEBEC (CP)—St. Lawrence river navigation season opens officially at midnight April 1 but only the lighthouse keepers are ready.

Transport department officials said Wednesday an unseasonal cold spell has created dangerous ice conditions. Buys have not been placed and pilot service would be up to par until ice conditions improved.

It looks as if the lighthouses will blink at a traffic-bare river when they light up, a port authority said. Their operators took over last week.

**Coming Events**  
\*Mammoth moccasin dance, Forum, Thursday, March 31st.  
\*Crockinole Party, Wheatley River, Friday, April 1st.  
\*Covehead-Stanhope community concert, Maribeth hall, April 1st.  
\*We can do your custom grinding and mixing now, at our Charlottetown Mill, P. L. Morris, 13 Lower Queen Street.\*Cake Sale, Moore & McLeod, Saturday, April 2nd, 2 o'clock. Sponsored by Highfield W. I.\*Special Royal Hog Concentrate 36 per cent protein, \$4.95 per hundred weight cash. Ellis Bros. Dial 3223.\*Buying pigs Thursday at Fredericton, Priced \$21.00 a pair for good pigs over 30 lbs. each. Will also buy smaller ones. Knud Jorgensen.

# STRETCH-OUT PLAN CUTS CANADIAN ARMS SPENDING DURING YEAR BY 17 PER CENT

## Liberal Federation Asks Radio, TV Commission; Action On Unemployment

OTTAWA, (CP)—The advisory council of the National Liberal Federation recommended Wednesday that the government appoint a commission to consider bringing Canadian radio and television broadcasting under an independent regulatory tribunal.

The 225-delegate council, winding up a three-day convention, proposed also that the government speed up established efforts to fight unemployment and to get greater co-operation from industry to establish new factories and products to eliminate long periods of unusual unemployment.

The council also asked that the government implement a comprehensive contributory health insurance scheme as soon as agreements can be reached with provinces and that legislation be brought in to ensure that women get as much pay as men for equal work in employment fields under federal jurisdiction.

These proposals were among 22 resolutions unanimously approved by the delegates and made public after private sessions were completed.

## ACCELERATE POLICY—

It recommended that this policy be continued and if possible accelerated and that greater co-operation be developed with private industry to promote industry expansion and shorter periods of unusual unemployment.

The council reiterated its confidence in the leadership of Prime Minister St. Laurent.

It observed that budgeting against the cost of illness is at present beyond the financial means of a large number of Canadians and proposed implementing a contributory health insurance scheme to be administered by the provinces.

## INDEPENDENT COMMISSION

The council said it generally commends the government for its radio and television policy, but recommended that an independent commission be appointed to examine the whole current situation.

It asked that the commission look into the "advisability of establishing a regulatory tribunal not connected in any way with any operating broadcasting station or stations" and then to make recommendations as to whether such a tribunal should be set up.

At present, regulation of radio and television broadcasting is in the hands of the publicly-owned Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, which reports to Parliament through Revenue Minister Me-

## Parliament At A Glance

By THE CANADIAN PRESS  
Wednesday  
Defence Production Minister Howe reported arms production expenditures in 1954 totalled \$1,009,200,000, down from 1953.

The Commons gave final approval to \$53,834,000 in supplementary estimates, boosting 1954-55 spending to \$4,567,724,000, a peacetime record.

John Fallick (PC—Peel) accused the transport department of unfairness in expropriation and control of land around major airports.

Opposition speakers said the Commons veterans committee has become a "rubber stamp" for government legislation.

Thursday  
The Commons will consider government business. The Senate will sit.

## Expect Road To Village Open Today

ST. CROIX DE LOTBINIERE, Que. (CP)—A powerful bulldozer Wednesday joined two snowblowers for a final assault on two miles of deep, hard-packed snow—the last barrier between St. Croix and the outside world that has been separated from for 10 days.

Paul Biron, mayor of this snow-bound, hungry village, said Wednesday night the nine-mile road to Laurier station should be opened completely some time this morning. Work continued all night.

The village has been wrapped in a shell of snow since a week ago last Monday as a result of three gale-driven storms. Food supplies dwindled to the point where the parish priest, Rev. Alexandre Desjardis, asked parishioners at Sunday mass to eat no more than necessary. Fuel, particularly oil, is being shared among neighbors and there are no fresh meat or vegetables.

## Prove Men Can Live On Sea Water

BREST, France, (Reuters)—A hardy little band of French navy men have proved that shipwrecked sailors can stay alive by drinking sea water. Surgeon-Commander Pierre Aury reported Tuesday.

Aury and 10 other French navy personnel—two officers and eight men—had spent up to six days on a tossing rubber raft to find out how shipwrecked seamen can survive. He claimed Tuesday that salt water, believed by many to be "better than nothing at all," is "better than nothing at all."

But Aury added it must be drunk in small gulps, like whiskey. Aury rationed his men to 10 tumblers of sea water a day, the equivalent of half an ounce of salt. He explained that most persons normally consume one-third of an ounce of salt a day.

When the experiment ended, the 11 men had lost an average of nine pounds.

## Reds Hike Road Tolls To Berlin

By GARY LEVY  
BERLIN (Reuters)—West Germany hit back at once Wednesday with an economic threat of its own when Communist East Germany threatened a blockade of Berlin through increased road taxes.

The new Communist move stirred memories of the 1948-49 Berlin blockade, which began when Communist restrictions in international rail traffic and finally spread to cut off all but air traffic to and from Berlin. This resulted in the famed Berlin airlift by the Western powers.

Mayor Otto Suhr of West Berlin termed the East German action "one of the expected reactions" to ratification of the Paris treaties reuniting West Germany.

The new East German road tolls would apply to motor traffic passing through the Soviet zone of the 110-mile autobahn between Berlin and West Germany. A city spokesman said that these, if not counteracted, could have a disastrous effect on the West Berlin economy because more than one-third of all Berlin freight went by road.

TALKS SUSPENDED  
In retaliation West German authorities suspended current trade talks with East Germany. Chairman Herbert Wehner of the West German parliamentary committee for all-German affairs said meetings of inter-zone trade experts from both sides of Germany had immediately been cancelled.

West Berlin economic authorities considered a threat to cut off inter-zone trade would be the only effective West German counter-measure to the toll increases.

This proved effective once before. East Germany dumped on road tolls Sept. 1, 1951, about one-half as heavy as those announced Wednesday. West German authorities applied such pressure then through the committee that the tolls were restored within 19 days.

If inter-zone trade were stopped East Germany would stand to lose more than \$31,000,000 of iron and steel products from the West, whereas West Germany could do without East German imports.

Berlin, however, relies entirely on East German brown coal. The alternative would be Ruhr coal at much higher cost.

The enormous toll increases would affect not only the price of all food and consumer goods, but also the cartage of raw materials to West Berlin and the finished goods to the West German markets. Unless compensated, they could make West Berlin industries uncompetitive, with staggering results on employment.

FOURFOLD ON BUSES  
Transport authorities estimated the new tolls would cost more than \$7,000,000 extra a year, rais-

## Salk Vaccine Said Effective

NEW YORK, (AP)—No children who received Salk polio vaccine in last year's country-wide tests contracted the disease, the New York World-Telegram and Sun says in a copyrighted story.

The newspaper says this is the first report on results of the tests to be released April 12.

Quoting a "unimpeachable medical source," it says not one of the 440,000 children who received the vaccine got infantile paralysis, while ordinarily a possible 84 of them might have done so.

"The results of the test," the story adds, "should give hope to every mother and father in the world that children will in the future never have to suffer from this crippling disease."



Inspecting Officer  
Captain Francis B. Caldwell, C.D., R.C.N., will carry out the annual inspection of the naval establishment at H.M.C.S. Queen Charlotte on April 13. Arriving by plane at 4:45 p.m. he will make his inspection of naval personnel at 8:00 p.m.

Annual inspection of the naval establishment at H.M.C.S. Queen Charlotte on April 13. Arriving by plane at 4:45 p.m. he will make his inspection of naval personnel at 8:00 p.m.

Captain Caldwell who is 40 years of age started his naval career at the age of 17 when he enrolled as a cadet at Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario. After several years spent with the Royal Navy, in 1939 he assumed command of the Canadian destroyer H. M. C. S. Saguenay and later the H.M.C.S. St. Laurent. Subsequent commands were with the destroyer "Athabaskan" and the cruiser "Ontario". His promotions have been consistent throughout the years until on July 1, 1954 he was raised to the rank of Captain at the age 39.

## Growers Keenly Watching Potato Tariff Trends

"Island potato producers are quite interested in the latest statements regarding the general agreement on tariffs," said Mr. Donald A. MacDonald, chairman of the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board, last night. "They are particularly interested in what chances there are of having the present Canada-U.S. structure changed."

Mr. MacDonald said that while no changes have been made as a result of negotiations, any country which has been consistent of the tariff concessions it made to any of the treaty countries after negotiations, during which some compensation must be offered in lieu of the requested change. If no compensation is offered, then the country affected can retaliate by imposing a tariff on some item or by increasing the existing rate.

"As an example," he said, "if this principle were applied to potatoes, the Canadian government could propose to put a tariff on potatoes coming to Canada from the United States—"

(Continued on Page 2 col. 3)

## Dismiss 102 Canso Strait Employees

MULGRAVE, N. S. (CP)—The CNR dismissed 102 Canso strait district employees Wednesday because the ferries on which they work will be idled in May by the causeway linking Cape Breton Island to the Nova Scotia mainland.

The dismissals were contained in individual letters to personnel from Capt. R. H. Worthen, CNR marine services supervisor at Moncton. They are effective May 14 at 11:59 p.m.

The railway expects to move its first train over the 14-mile-long causeway about May 1. Work on the canal and swing bridge near the Cape Breton shore is nearing an end.

## No Decision On Benefits Date

OTTAWA (CP)—Labor Minister Gregg said Wednesday the government has not decided whether supplementary unemployment-insurance benefits should be extended beyond April 15.

He was asked in the Commons by Joseph Noseworthy (CCF—York South) whether this is being considered. The supplementary benefits—providing additional coverage in cold-weather months—run between Jan. 1 and April 15.

## Senate Moves To Compel Filling Of All Vacancies

OTTAWA (CP)—Legislation has been introduced in the Senate to compel the government to fill within six months any vacancies occurring in the 102-seat upper chamber.

The move has been proposed by Senator William Emler, 79-year-old Kitchener, Ont., businessman and former federal trade minister, in a bill to amend the British North American Act.

Adoption of the bill by the Senate and the Commons would mean the filling of 21 current Senate vacancies and the appointment of new members six months after the death, retirement or resignation of any senator.

## AMENDMENT POSSIBLE

Legal authorities here said Senator Emler's proposed bill would be within the power of Parliament to amend the constitution on all matters within federal jurisdiction.

The last Senate appointment was that of Senator Nancy Hodges, former speaker of the British Columbia legislature, in November, 1953. Since then there have been numerous reports that Prime Minister St. Laurent would soon fill at least some vacancies.

Senator Emler said in an interview outside the Senate that some of the upper house seats have been vacant for seven years. This was contrary to public interest and unfair to the Senate.

**DEATH BY ATTRITION**  
"I'm not arguing whether or not there should be a Senate at all," he said. "But if a Senate is worthwhile it should be fully constituted and not be abolished piecemeal by a process of slow attrition."

Under the constitution, the prime minister has the prerogative to make life appointments to the Senate. Newfoundland has six seats, Prince Edward Island four, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick 10 each, Quebec and Ontario 24 each, and the four western provinces six each.

There now are six vacancies in Quebec, four in New Brunswick, three each in Nova Scotia and Ontario, two in Manitoba and one each in Alberta, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland.

Present Senate standing: Liberals 7, Progressive Conservatives 7, vacancies 21—total 102.

## British Join New Middle East Pact

LONDON (AP)—Britain has established a new defence linkup with Turkey and Iraq extending the defensive area of the north Atlantic pact to the Indian Ocean.

New accords were signed in Baghdad Wednesday to replace a 25-year British-Iraqi treaty with a new system of military co-operation.

Foreign Secretary Eden told the House of Commons these can serve as the "foundation of a general defence arrangement in the middle east."

Arab nationalism had heretofore blocked Allied efforts to build up a military barricade against communism in the Middle East. There were immediate signs that some Arab states intend to stiffen their resistance against the Turkish-Iraqi-British grouping.

## Housing Project For Moncton

OTTAWA (CP)—Proposed construction of 110 houses for use of defence personnel at Moncton, N.B., was announced Wednesday by Henry Murphy, Liberal Commons member for Westmoreland.

Mr. Murphy said in an interview he has been advised by Works Minister Winters that tenders for the buildings should be called six to eight weeks from now. The contract would be awarded about three weeks after the calling of tenders.

The homes are to be built for Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the federal government's housing agency.

## Report Co-op Textile Mill Doing Well

FREDERICTON (CP)—Milltown's co-operative textile mill is doing well, members of the legislature learned Wednesday.

The information was passed on to the municipalities committee by G. F. Nicholson, Q.C. as he stated Milltown's case for a higher poll tax.

Mr. Nicholson said it was his understanding the mill now has as many employees at work as were there when Textile Sales Ltd. shut down last year. The big plant re-opened as a co-operative venture not long afterwards.

The St. Stephen barrister said he understood the co-op is progressing "very successfully." But to help bring about this end, the town of Milltown had made certain tax concessions which sharply reduced its revenues.

Milltown sought authority to increase its poll tax to not more than \$40, and not less than \$18 for male residents between 21 and 65. The fee would be \$4 between 65 and 70 years, with the tax ending at that age thereafter.

The committee approved the town's petition.

## Report Co-op Textile Mill Doing Well

REGINA (CP)—A resolution urging world disarmament was approved unanimously in the Saskatchewan legislature Tuesday. Moved by Arnold Feust (CCF-Pelly) it asked the federal government to intensify efforts to achieve world disarmament by mutual consent. It also called for abolition of nuclear weapons.

## FAVOR DISARMAMENT

OTTAWA (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Location	Min.	Max.
Dawson	33	38
Vancouver	48	46
Victoria	41	47
Edmonton	30	38
Calgary	34	36
Regina	30	41
Winnipeg	30	41
Toronto	30	50
Ottawa	24	46
Montreal	38	48
Quebec	21	41
Fredricton	26	49
Saint John	25	31
Moncton	25	50
Halifax	31	54
Charlottetown	28	44
Sydney	27	43
Yarmouth	31	47
St. John's, Nfld.	32	37

## Senators Move To Compel Filling Of All Vacancies

OTTAWA (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Location	Min.	Max.
Dawson	33	38
Vancouver	48	46
Victoria	41	47
Edmonton	30	38
Calgary	34	36
Regina	30	41
Winnipeg	30	41
Toronto	30	50
Ottawa	24	46
Montreal	38	48
Quebec	21	41
Fredricton	26	49
Saint John	25	31
Moncton	25	50
Halifax	31	54
Charlottetown	28	44
Sydney	27	43
Yarmouth	31	47
St. John's, Nfld.	32	37

## Senators Move To Compel Filling Of All Vacancies

OTTAWA (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Location	Min.	Max.
Dawson	33	38
Vancouver	48	46
Victoria	41	47
Edmonton	30	38
Calgary	34	36
Regina	30	41
Winnipeg	30	41
Toronto	30	50
Ottawa	24	46
Montreal	38	48
Quebec	21	41
Fredricton	26	49
Saint John	25	31
Moncton	25	50
Halifax	31	54
Charlottetown	28	44
Sydney	27	43
Yarmouth	31	47
St. John's, Nfld.	32	37

## Senators Move To Compel Filling Of All Vacancies

OTTAWA (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Location	Min.	Max.
Dawson	33	38
Vancouver	48	46
Victoria	41	47
Edmonton	30	38
Calgary	34	36
Regina	30	41
Winnipeg	30	41
Toronto	30	50
Ottawa	24	46
Montreal	38	48
Quebec	21	41
Fredricton	26	49
Saint John	25	31
Moncton	25	50
Halifax	31	54
Charlottetown	28	44
Sydney	27	43
Yarmouth	31	47
St. John's, Nfld.	32	37

## Senators Move To Compel Filling Of All Vacancies

OTTAWA (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Location	Min.	Max.
Dawson	33	38
Vancouver	48	46
Victoria	41	47
Edmonton	30	38
Calgary	34	36
Regina	30	41
Winnipeg	30	41
Toronto	30	50
Ottawa	24	46
Montreal	38	48
Quebec	21	41
Fredricton	26	49
Saint John	25	31
Moncton	25	50
Halifax	31	54
Charlottetown	28	44
Sydney	27	43
Yarmouth	31	47
St. John's, Nfld.	32	37

## OTTAWA, (CP)—The government embarked on an arms-production "stretch-out" policy in 1954, increasing orders for weapons and equipment but extending the time of delivery to reduce actual expenditures by almost 17 per cent.

Production Minister Howe estimated in his annual report tabled in the Commons Wednesday that this policy reduced expenditures in the calendar year 1954 by about \$200,000,000 to \$1,009,200,000. This brought spending on military goods since the start of the 1951 arms build-up to \$3,872,940,000.

While expenditures declined, the flow of defence production orders increased last year by 30 per cent to \$1,221,378,000 from \$818,836,000 in 1953 as contracts for aircraft tripled. This boosted total orders placed since 1951 to \$4,674,081,000.

Some of the orders placed are subject to change and reduction. Officials said in many cases the time of delivery has been extended but gave no details.

## LARGELY COMPLETED

Mr. Howe said in his report that during the year the initial build-up of the country's defence potential was largely completed and emphasis was shifted to the scheduling of production to meet a continuing high level of defence procurement.

Most of the decline in spending, he added, took place in the fields of aircraft production and defence construction.

During the year there were these other developments:

Development work continued on a powerful armament system that will make the Canadian CF-100 jet fighter "one of the most heavily armed fighters in existence."

New electronic devices were developed and produced and delivered and installations for the first line of the continental northern radar system were completed. This apparently is a reference to the Pinetree radar chain which runs somewhere along the Canada-United States border.

## HALF FOR AIRCRAFT

Of the \$1,221,000,000 worth of orders placed in 1954, about half went to aircraft plants, mostly for the production of jets and as a start on production of the Bristol Britannia for RCAF maritime reconnaissance work. Orders for aircraft since 1951 now total \$1,902,800,000.

Orders placed for defence construction works increased to \$102,176,000 from \$88,214,000, mostly to get ahead with development of the army's Gazetown, N. B. camp (boosting) total orders since 1951 to \$509,478,000.

## Claim Veterans Committee Has Become Rubber Stamp

OTTAWA (CP)—Two opposition members Wednesday accused the government of allowing the Commons veterans committee to become a "rubber stamp" for government legislation.

Clarie Gillis (CCF—Cape Breton South) said in the Commons that in the last five years the committee has become a group that merely examines legislation instead of making recommendations to the government.

Mr. Gillis, a veteran of the First World War, said he remembers when veterans affairs ministers were kept running back and forth between the committee and the cabinet with recommendations for various improvements to veterans legislation.

Col. A. J. Brooks (PC—Royal), veteran of two world wars, said the committee was not permitted by the government to make changes to a bill increasing veterans allowances by 20 per cent and had merely "rubber stamped" the measure.

## Truck With Furs Stolen In Toronto

TORONTO (CP)—A panel truck containing \$6,000 in furs was stolen Monday while the driver was at a house picking up a coat for storage. The driver told police the vehicle contained five muskrat fur coats, seven Persian lamb coats, two beaver coats, a mink coat and several fur neckpieces and jackets.

## JUST A SAMPLE OF WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO GET LATER ON ?



## Senators Move To Compel Filling Of All Vacancies

OTTAWA (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Location	Min.	Max.
Dawson	33	38
Vancouver	48	46
Victoria	41	47
Edmonton	30	38
Calgary	34	36
Regina	30	41
Winnipeg	30	41
Toronto	30	50
Ottawa	24	46
Montreal	38	48
Quebec	21	41
Fredricton	26	49
Saint John	25	31
Moncton	25	50
Halifax	31	54
Charlottetown	28	44
Sydney	27	43
Yarmouth	31	47
St. John's, Nfld.	32	37

## Senators Move To Compel Filling Of All Vacancies

OTTAWA (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Location	Min.	Max.
Dawson	33	38
Vancouver	48	46
Victoria	41	47
Edmonton	30	38
Calgary	34	36
Regina	30	41
Winnipeg	30	41